

No.
7

PEP COMICS

ACTION
DETECTIVE
ADVENTURE

THE SHIELD!!
G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY

AUGUST
10¢



20-602



WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

PECK BROTHERS

Boys

IF YOU ACT FAST—

LEMONWOOD

5 1/2 in. BOW and
6-24 in. ARROWS

\$ **4.85**

Announce

LITTLE CHIEF

Special Introductory Price
Regular Retail Value \$7.98

During this special sale you get for the first time an American Brave 3 ft. flat style lemonwood bow and set of six arrows for the amazing low price of \$4.85.
Bow is first quality, straight grained Cuban lemonwood, air dried and thoroughly seasoned. Grain is carefully filled as stave is roughed out, irregularities rejected. Skillfully tapered by hand, form tested dozens of times to get that smooth action so important in getting higher scores on the range, more game in the woods.
Built up leather grip, celluloid edging. Sanded by hand, beautifully finished. Selected quality hemp string.
Six 24 in. birch arrows with brass parallel piles, two-color cresting. Three feathers, odd color cock feather. Precision mounted for flawless flight. 24 in. target and shooting in. sturtevant. Available during this limited sale, \$4.85.
Price complete during this limited sale, \$4.85.
If you wish you can send \$1 and pay balance on delivery.

AMERICAN BRAVE, Illustrated
Archery Set, \$4.85
LITTLE MAN
Archery Set, \$4.35
ALL-AMERICAN
Archery Set, \$7.45
FOR ADULTS



LEATHER FINGER
GUARD 34



Indoor ARCHERY SET

HICKORY BOW
Rubber-Cup Arrows
24-in. Tripod Target

\$2.95

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE

Just the set for beginners — youngsters — who some day will be top-notchers in this fascinating sport.

After you practice a little get Dad and Mom to test their skill against you. Target sets up in the living room, recreation room, garage or on the lawn.

Three legs set in sockets support the target. Length: Bow 40 in., arrows 19 in. Red, white and blue target.

Just write in the margin "I want a Little Chief Archery Set" and mail the coupon. Be sure you give your age, etc.

LEATHER ARM
GUARD 40

ALL-AMERICAN ARCHERY SET
3 1/2 ft. lemonwood flat style bow with built up handle, naturally cloudy, downward and upward spiral wound call-knife grip, celluloid palm, chrome hand, self-winding. Six plain maple 6 ft. arrows. Bow is available up to 45 lb. pull. Price \$7.45.

LITTLE MAN ARCHERY SET
This set is the same as the American Brave Illustrated and described above, except that the bow is 4 1/2 ft. and arrows 21 in. Maple. Price \$4.35.

ALL PECK BROTHERS, INC., CORNELL, CONN.
253 WHITNEY AVENUE,
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CONN.

CUT OUT AND MAIL TODAY
PECK BROTHERS

Send Archery Set marked. Amount enclosed
☐ American Brave \$7.45
☐ Little Man \$4.35
☐ All-American \$7.45
☐ Pivotal Hook \$1.00
☐ Finger Guard \$1.00
☐ Arm Guard \$1.00
☐ Tripod Target \$1.00

Name _____
Address _____

IRVING
NOVICK
HARRY SHORTEN

THE SHIELD G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY

JOE HIGGINS, G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY IS KNOWN TO ONLY ONE LIVING PERSON, THE CHIEF OF THE F.B.I., AS *THE SHIELD*. THE ENEMIES OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT OF AMERICA ARE THE ENEMIES OF *THE SHIELD*, AND HE USES ALL HIS TITANIC STRENGTH AND INTELLIGENCE IN BRINGING THEM TO JUSTICE. IN THIS EPISODE *THE SHIELD* TURNS GANG BUSTER ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT!

AN EVIL CREW GATHERS IN THE HEADQUARTERS OF AL MORONI, GANG BOSS!

MADAGGIO'S HAD THREE WARNINGS AND HE STILL WON'T COME ACROSS! TAKE CARE O' HIM!

SLUGGER MADAGGIO, SCORING ACE OF THE AMERICANS, SAYS GOODBYE TO HIS WIFE AND CHILD AS HE LEAVES FOR THE BALL PARK!

LATER, HE FACES THE STRIKE OUT MAGIC OF WHEEZY SEEN, BLUE SOX HURLER!

STRIKE ONE!

IN THE STANDS, JOE HIGGINS OF THE F.B.I. AND BETTY WARREN WATCH THE GAME!

C'MON, THERE SLUGGER! KNOCK THE PEEL OFFA THAT APPLE!

HE'S GOT ONE STRIKE ON ME.
I'LL MURDER THIS ONE!
IT'S RIGHT
DOWN MY
ALLEY!



MADAGGIO CONNECTS...AND...



JOE HASTENS TOWARD THE
BATTER'S BOX!



UGH, WHAT A SIGHT!
HE'S DEAD ALL
RIGHT!

STAND
BACK!

WHAT
HAPPENED?



MEANWHILE, AT ANOTHER BALL PARK—

THIS
IS THE
WINNING
RUN!



AN INCENDIARY BULLET IS SHOT FROM
THE STANDS. AND.....

HELP
HEL.....



ANOTHER BALL PLAYER MEETS HIS DEATH!



BACK AT THE HEADQUARTERS
OF AL MORONI!

THAT'S TOO BAD!
MAYBE THE REST
OF 'EM WILL
PAY UP FOR
OUR PRO-
TECTION
SERVICES
NOW!

SO A COUPLE OF BALL
PLAYERS HAVE BEEN
MYSTERIOUSLY KNOCKED
OFF.



IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF THE F.B.I./

THIS IS A CASE FOR THE G-MEN, MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY!

THAT'S RIGHT! BIG-TIME BASEBALL IS INTERSTATE. THAT PUTS IT RIGHT UP YOUR ALLEY!

THE LOCAL POLICE ARE STUMPED. WE'VE TRIED TO GET INFORMATION FROM THE WIVES OF THE DEAD BALL PLAYERS, BUT THEY WON'T TALK!



THE D.A. SOON LEAVES!

HIGGINS, YOU TAKE OVER!

I'LL START AT ONCE!

LET ME HELP, JOE!

NOT A BAD IDEA, BETTY! MAYBE THIS CASE NEEDS A WOMAN'S TOUCH!

WITH BETTY GONE, THE SHIELD SWINGS INTO ACTION

I'LL FOLLOW BETTY, JUST IN CASE.....



BETTY ARRIVES AT THE HOME OF MADAGGIO...

GOOD THING THE BOSS TOLD ME TO KEEP A LOOKOUT!

I'M ONLY TRYING TO HELP YOU MRS. MADAGGIO!

DON'T ASK ME ANY QUESTIONS! I WON'T TELL YOU ANYTHING!

SHE WANTS TO TALK, BUT SHE'S DEATHLY AFRAID OF SOMETHING — I'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY TO MAKE HER TALK!



THE WIFE OF THE OTHER BALL PLAYER TOLD ME ABOUT THREATS AGAINST HER CHILDREN!



SHE...D... DID!...I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING!

JOE RECEIVED A LETTER LAST WEEK, ASKING FOR A HUGE SUM OF MONEY. IT SAID IF HE WENT TO THE POLICE, HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN WOULD BE KILLED. JOE REFUSED TO PAY, AND.....



YES, I KNOW.

AS BETTY LEAVES....

ALL RIGHT, SISTER, PUT 'EM UP!



THAT'S NO WAY TO TALK TO A LADY!



THE SHIELD! HOW DID YOU KNOW?



JOE HIGGINS ASKED ME TO LOOK AFTER YOU!

....AND SO THIS GANG IS TRYING TO SHAKE DOWN ALL THE BALL PLAYERS!



I GUESS I'LL FIND OUT WHO'S BEHIND ALL THIS!

ALL RIGHT RAT, START TALKING! WHO'S THE BIG SHOT?



I DON'T KNOW NUTTIN'!

MAYBE THESE ELECTRIC WIRES WILL MAKE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND!



HELP!

OW! I'M BEIN' ELECTROCUTED!



MEMORY BETTER. NOW, OR DO YOU WANT ANOTHER HEAT TREATMENT?

NO, NO, I'LL TELL EVERYTHING I KNOW!



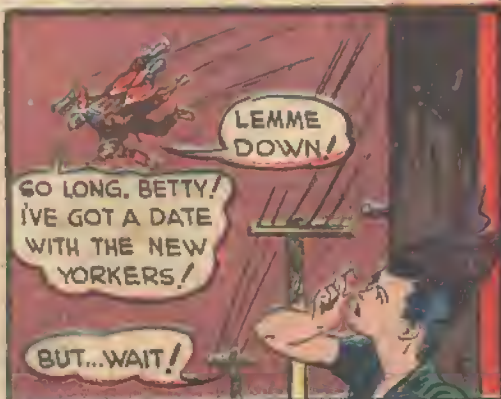
I DON'T KNOW WHO THE BIG SHOT IS. I DON'T ASK QUESTIONS! THE NEXT ONE TO GO IS, CAL BUBBLE OF THE NEW YORKERS!



LEMME DOWN!

GO LONG, BETTY! I'VE GOT A DATE WITH THE NEW YORKERS!

BUT...WAIT!



THE THUG IS DELIVERED TO THE LOCAL POLICE IN THE SHIELD'S OWN WAY!

HOLY SMOKE!

HELP! I'M GUILTY!



WHERE DID YOU COME FROM? WHAT ARE YOU GUILTY OF?

MURDER! FORGERY! ARSON! ANYTHING! ONLY DON'T LET THAT SHIELD GET HIS HANDS ON ME AGAIN!



THE SHIELD SOON REACHES THE LOCKER ROOM OF THE NEW YORKERS!

I DON'T WANT THEM TO SEE ME! I'LL WAIT UNTIL I CAN GET THE MANAGER ALONE!



THE SHIELD MANAGES TO GET TO MANAGER TERRIER AND CAL BUBBLE, STAR PITCHER!

I'M THE SHIELD! YOUR LIFE IS IN DANGER, MR. BUBBLE! I'VE GOT A PLAN IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU MR. TERRIER!

SURE SHIELD!



LET ME PITCH
TODAY INSTEAD
OF MR. BUBBLE!

THAT'S ALL RIGHT
WITH ME!

GO
TO
IT!



HEY,
BILL,
WHO'S
THAT?

A NEW ROOKIE!
CALLS HIM-
SELF THE
MASKED
MARVEL!



THE SHIELD SOON TAKES THE MOUND!

I MIGHT AS
WELL ENJOY
THE GAME
WHILE I'M
ABOUT IT!



I'VE BEEN
SHOT!

WHERE'S THAT
BALL?

OOPS!
THAT
BALL
SLIPPED!

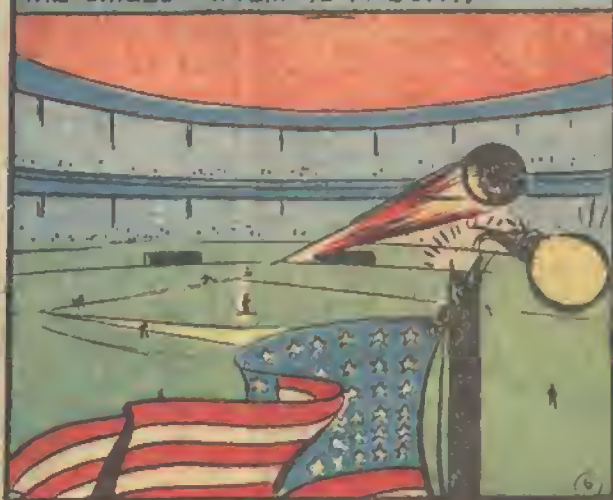


THE SHIELD TAKES HIS TURN AT BAT!

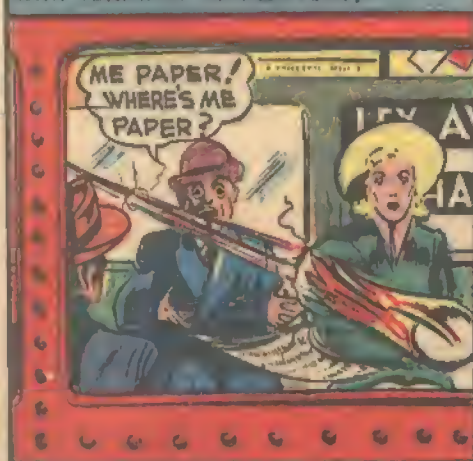
I MUSTN'T SWING
TOO HARD OR
ELSE.....



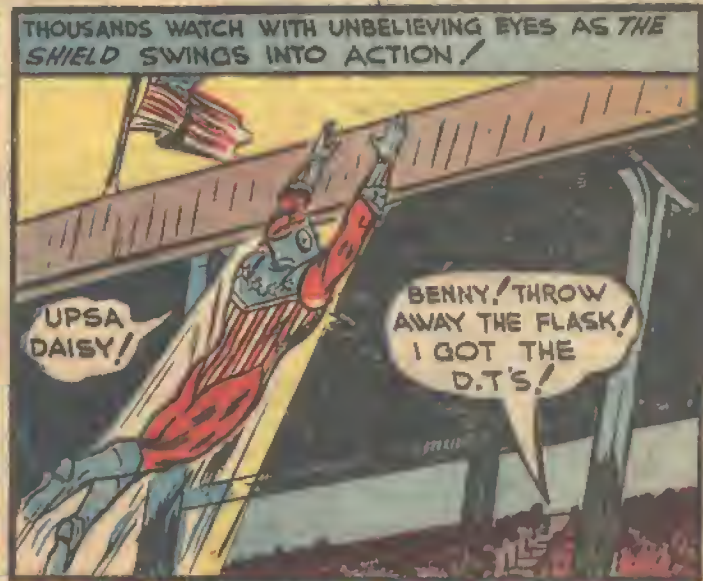
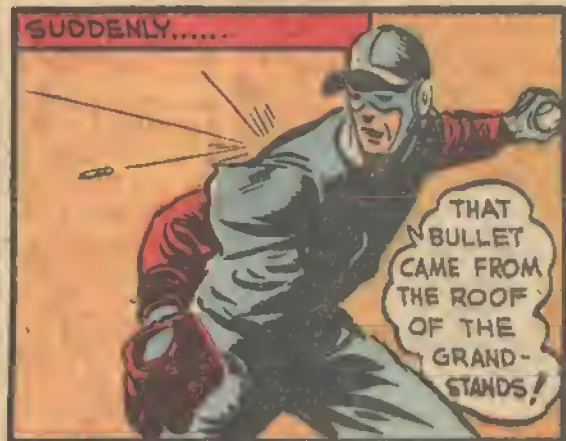
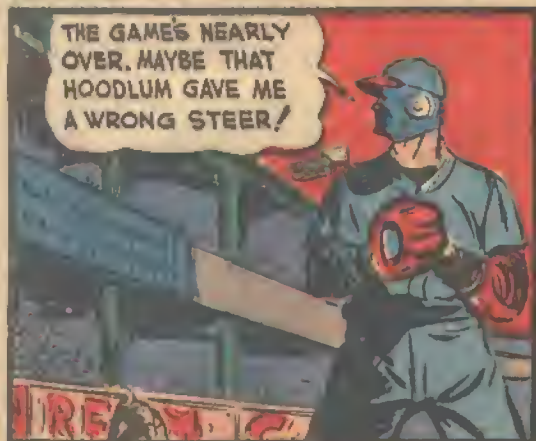
THE SHIELD ATTEMPTS A BUNT!



THE BASEBALL CONTINUES TRAVELLING
WITH TERRIFIC MOMENTUM!



THE BALL IS MISTAKEN FOR A COMET!





THERE HE GOES
DOWN THAT
ROPE!



TSK, TSK! THIS GUY
SEEMS TO
BE IN A
HURRY!



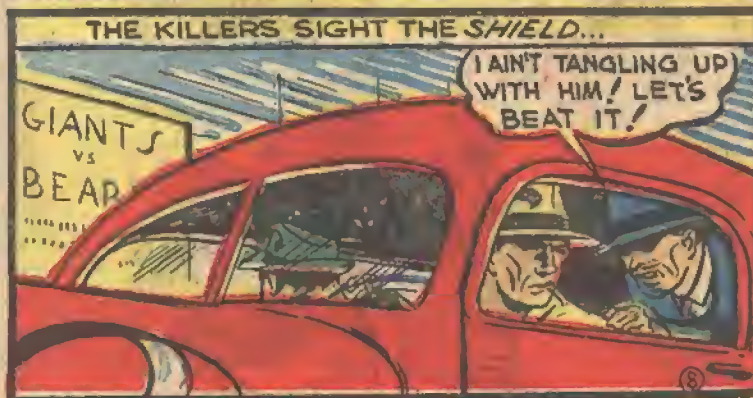
FIRST LET
ME SHOW
YOU A
NICE TRICK!



NOW I'LL LET GO! I HOPE,
FOR YOUR SAKE, I PUT
THE RIGHT KIND OF
CURVE ON THAT ONE!



LEGGO!



THE KILLERS SIGHT THE SHIELD...

I AIN'T TANGLING UP
WITH HIM! LET'S
BEAT IT!

GIANTS
VS
BEAR



TREMENDOUS GRAPPLE HOOKS SHOOT OUT OF THE WALL AND PINION THE SHIELD TO IT!



ANOTHER BUTTON, AND THE WALL SWIVELS AROUND!

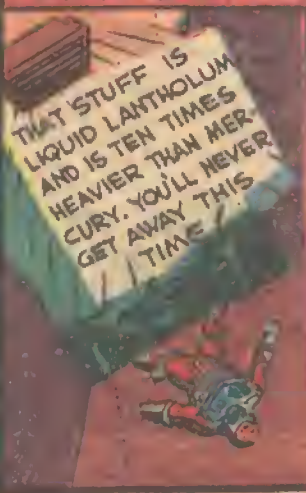
SO LONG, SHIELD! IF YOU KNOW ANY PRAYERS, SAY THEM!



THE SHIELD FINDS HIMSELF IN A STEEL-WALLED ROOM AS A HEAVY NUMBING LIQUID POURS FROM JETS.



MORONI SPEAKS TO THE SHIELD THROUGH A MICROPHONE!



NOW I'M GOING OUT TO KNOCK OFF A COUPLE OF MORE BALL PLAYERS WHO SQUAWKED!



WHEW! THESE HOOKS WERE TOUGH!



A NEW MENACE ARISES, A MOVABLE CEILING WHICH THREATENS TO CRUSH THE SHIELD LIKE AN EGGSHELL!



HAS THE SHIELD AT LAST
MET HIS DOOM???

WHAT A SPOT! IF
ONLY I CAN.....



THE SHIELD USES EVERY
OUNCE OF HIS WANING
STRENGTH IN A DESPERATE
UPWARD HEAVE, AND....

OOOOOMP!
THAT DOES IT!



BUT THE DANGER IS
NOT YET PAST!

AND NOW TO GET
OUT OF THIS!
THIS LANTHOLUM
IS HARDER
THAN STEEL!



THE SHIELD RIPS HIMSELF FROM THE
IMPRISONING SOLIDIFIED LIQUID!



AND IMMEDIATELY MAKES
FOR THE STADIUM!

I HAVENT GOT A
MINUTE TO LOSE!



A RACE AGAINST TIME!

THE GAME
WILL BE
OVER ANY
SECOND
NOW! MOR-
ONI WILL TRY
TO SHOOT
THEM DOWN AS
THEY COME
OUTSIDE!



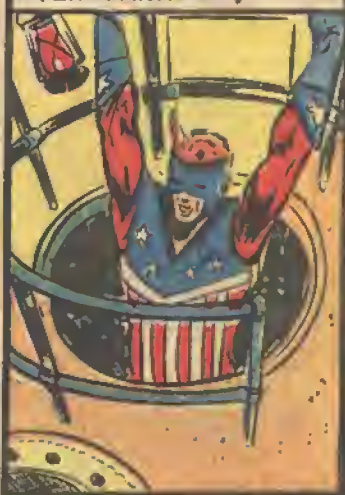
I'LL USE
MY OWN
HIGHWAY!





THERE
THEY
ARE!

THE SHIELD LEAPS INTO AN
OPEN MANHOLE!



MEANWHILE, MOROHI AND HIS
MEN PROCEED WITH THEIR
DEADLY WORK!

THERE THEY GO! PULL
UP TO THEM!



GIVE IT TO
'EM!

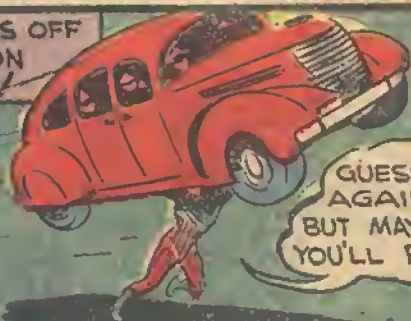
WILL THE SHIELD ARRIVE TOO LATE ???



BULL'S
EYE!

THE SHIELD RACES OFF
WITH THE CAR ON
HIS SHOULDERS!

GULP! IT'S
THE SHIELD!
Y...YOU'RE
DEAD!



GUESS
AGAIN!
BUT MAYBE
YOU'LL BE!

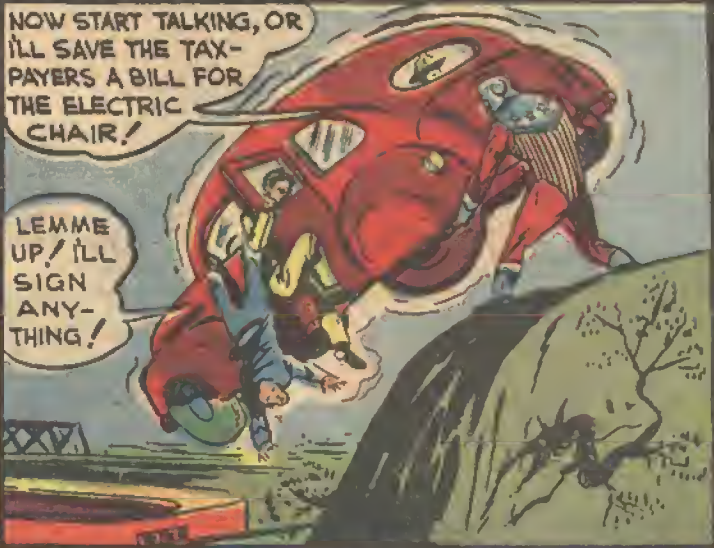
THE SHIELD REACHES
COOGAN'S BLUFF!

I'LL GET RIGHT
DOWN TO
BUSINESS!



NOW START TALKING, OR
I'LL SAVE THE TAX-
PAYERS A BILL FOR
THE ELECTRIC
CHAIR!

LEMME
UP! I'LL
SIGN
ANY-
THING!



THE RIOT SQUAD SOON ARRIVES!

JUMPIN'
JEHOSEPHAT!

IT'S MORONI
AND HIS
MOB!

LOOK! THERES
WRITING ON
THE SIDE-
WALK!



THE POLICE READ MORONI'S
SIGNED CONFESSION!

TO WHOM IT MAY
CONCERN,
I AM GUILTY
OF THE BASEBALL
MURDERS!

Al Moroni

ONCE AGAIN JOE HIGGINS!

WELL I GUESS
THAT'S THAT!



THE NEXT DAY!

AS I WAS SAYING BEFORE
I WAS INTERRUPTED,
C'MON YOU
MUG! SLAM
THAT BALL
OUT OF THE
PARK!




THE SHIELD
IS OFF TO NEWER
AND GREATER
ADVENTURES
IN THE NEXT
ISSUE OF

PEPE
COMICS




THE MOST ASTOUNDING MAN ON
THE FACE OF THE EARTH!



THE COMET

JOHN DICKERING, A YOUNG SCIENTIST HAS DISCOVERED A GAS WHICH—WHEN INJECTED INTO HIS BLOODSTREAM—ALLOWS HIM TO MAKE PRODIGIOUS FLIGHTS THROUGH THE AIR. THE GAS EMITS A DISINTEGRATING RAY THROUGH HIS EYES THAT ONLY GLASS WILL STOP. AIDED BY THELMA GORDON, YOUNG NEWS-PAPERWOMAN—AND THE ONLY PERSON WHO KNOWS HIS TRUE IDENTITY, DICKERING, AS THE COMET, CONDUCTS A ONE-MAN WAR AGAINST CRIME.

AFTER ROUNDING UP A GANG OF RACKETEERS, THE COMET HEADS HOME.



WELL, THELMA HAS A GOOD STORY, AND I'VE DONE MY GOOD DEED FOR THE DAY.

SUDDENLY HE STARTS TO DRIFT TOWARD THE EARTH.

WHAT TH—
SOMETHING'S
WRONG! I'M
FALLING!

CLANCY, DO YOU
SEE WHAT I SEE?

BE JABERS!
THE COMET!
LET'S GET 'IM!



THE GAS MUST HAVE
WORN OFF! I'LL HAVE
TO RUN FOR IT.



I'D FEEL A LOT SAFER
IN THE AIR.

STOP! STOP
OR WE'LL
SHOOT TO KILL!



HE WENT THIS WAY!
C'MON CLANCY!

C'MON YOURSELF/WHO,
DO YOU THINK I AM,
GLENN CUNNINGHAM?

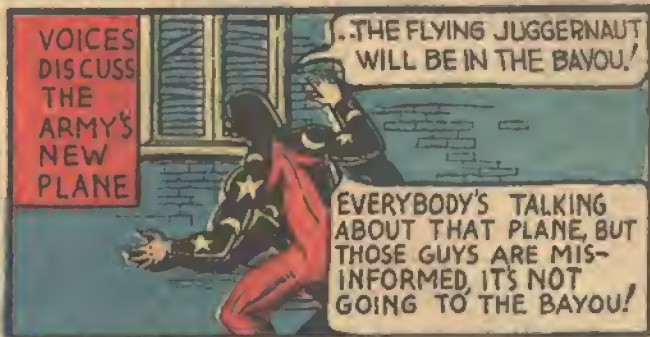


I KNOW COMETS
SOMETIME END UP
IN ASHES BUT I
DIDN'T EXPECT
IT SO SOON.



NOW TO GET BACK HOME
WITHOUT BEING SEEN AGAIN.

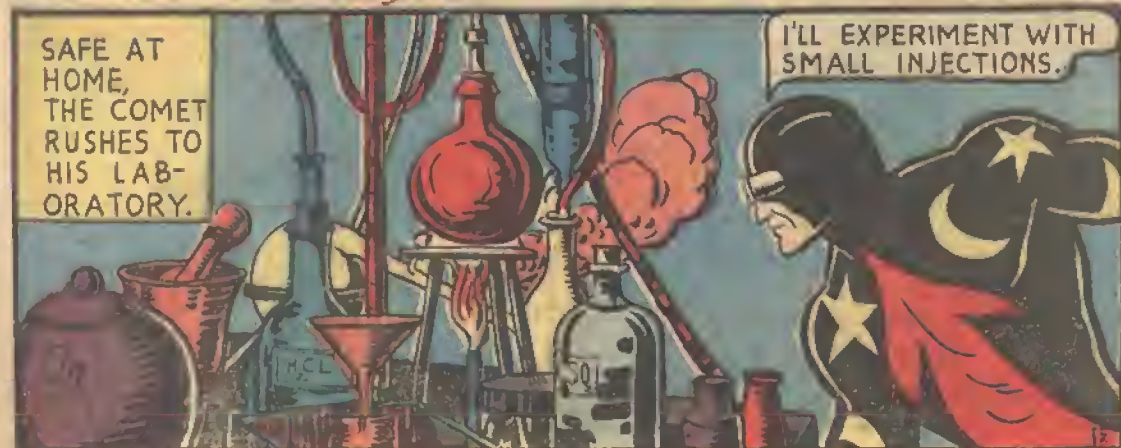
TO AVOID DETECTION
THE COMET SNEAKS
HOME THROUGH THE
ALLEYS OF THE
TOWN



VOICES
DISCUSS
THE
ARMY'S
NEW
PLANE

..THE FLYING JUGGERNAUT
WILL BE IN THE BAYOU!

EVERYBODY'S TALKING
ABOUT THAT PLANE, BUT
THOSE GUYS ARE MIS-
INFORMED, IT'S NOT
GOING TO THE BAYOU!



SAFE AT
HOME,
THE COMET
RUSHES TO
HIS LAB-
ORATORY.

I'LL EXPERIMENT WITH
SMALL INJECTIONS.

THE NEXT MORNING AFTER HOURS OF EXPERIMENTATION.



THE COMET CALLS THELMA.

HELLO THELMA, I'VE GREAT NEWS FOR YOU.

I'M AFRAID IT'LL HAVE TO WAIT, JOHN, DEAR. I'M COVERING THE FLYING JUGGERNAUT'S FIRST FLIGHT TODAY.



GOOD GIRL! WELL I CAN DO WITH SOME SLEEP. CALL ME WHEN YOU GET BACK AND WE'LL HAVE DINNER TOGETHER.

THAT'LL BE FINE. GOOD-BYE.



EXHAUSTED FROM HIS NIGHT'S WORK, THE COMET DOZES OFF.



MEANWHILE, AT THE AIRFIELD.

YOU HAVE THE HONOR OF MAKING THE FIRST FLIGHT MISS GORDON.

THIS IS CERTAINLY A THRILL.



SUDDENLY, AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE FIELD.

STOP!
YOU CAN'T!
OOOOH!



MOWING DOWN ARMY OFFICERS, THE SPEEDING CAR COMES TO A HALT BY THE FLYING JUGGERNAUT.



DON'T MOVE! I'LL TAKE THE CONTROLS, HANS! KEEP THE SKIRT FOR PROTECTION!

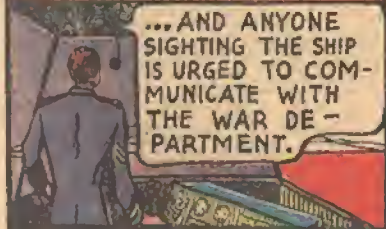


IN A FEW SECONDS THE ARMY'S GREATEST WEAPON IS IN THE HANDS OF ENEMIES!



WITHIN THE HOUR THE ENTIRE NATION IS AGHAST AT THE INCREDIBLE EVENT!

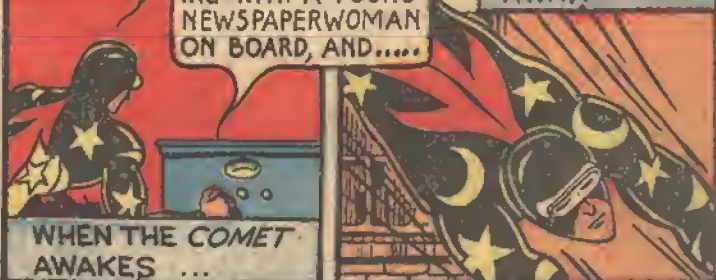
...AND ANYONE SIGHTING THE SHIP IS URGED TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE WAR DEPARTMENT.



HO-HUM... WONDER IF THERE'S ANY MUSIC ON THE RADIO!

THERE IS STILL NO RELIABLE REPORT OF THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE FLYING JUGGERNAUT HI-JACKED THIS MORNING WITH A YOUNG NEWSPAPERWOMAN ON BOARD, AND.....

AFTER HEARING THE DETAILS OF THE VANISHED PLANE, THE COMET ZOOMS AWAY!



BUT AFTER HOURS OF FRUITLESS SEARCHING!

NOT A SIGN OF IT, AND THE ARMY AND NAVY HAVE BOTH COAST LINES COVERED!



BUT IT COULDN'T JUST HAVE DISAPPEARED! LET'S SEE, WHAT WOULD ENEMY AGENTS DO? MOST LIKELY TAKE IT SOMEWHERE SO THEY COULD MAKE PLANS OF IT.



IF ONLY-- SAY THOSE MEN I HEARD TALKING LAST NIGHT.... THE BAYOU COUNTRY! NOBODY WOULD HAVE SAID THAT IF THEY DIDN'T KNOW!



I HAVEN'T A
MINUTE TO
LOSE!

TWO DAYS LATER... OVER THE
BAYOU SWAMPS...

I'VE JUST ABOUT COVERED
THE WHOLE
PLACE! I GUESS MY
HUNCH WAS WRONG
AFTER ALL! BUT, WAIT!

THE SECRET HIDEAWAY OF THE
FOREIGN AGENTS.

SPEED UP THEM
BLUEPRINTS, BOYS.
HEY, WHAT'S THAT

THE COMET

GET YOUR
GUNS
READY!

HIS EYES SPURTING INSTANT DEATH, THE COMET
DIVES INTO A HAIL OF EQUALLY DEADLY BULLETS.

YOU HAVE
IT COMING
TO YOU!

AND YOU GOT
THIS COMING TO
YOU- AWWHH!

NOT THIS TIME,
BUT HOW DO
YOU LIKE THIS?

THE COMET MAKES QUICK
WORK OF THE SPIES... BUT...

THE RINGLEADER MANEUVERS CLEVERLY!

ONE MOVE AND I LET
THE SKIRT HAVE IT.

I CAN'T DO A
THING TO YOU BE-
HIND THAT GLASS!

HIS EYES FOCUSED BETWEEN
THELMA AND THE SPY'S GUN
THE COMET MOVES FORWARD.

I WARNED
YOU!

BUT I CAN
DO SOME-
THING ELSE!

THE SPY OPENS FIRE-BUT THE COMET
DISINTEGRATES THE BULLETS IN MID-AIR!

I THINK THAT ABOUT
EMPTIES THAT CAP-
PISTOL, MISTER

WHAT! WHAT
HAPPENED?

ALL THAT MATTERS,
IS WHAT HAPPENS
FROM NOW ON!

I GIVE UP!
I GIVE UP!
DON'T KILL ME!

I HAVE NO INTENTION OF
KILLING YOU/YOU'RE GOING
TO FLY THIS SHIP AND ALL
THESE PAPERS RIGHT BACK
WHERE YOU STARTED FROM.

SEVERAL HOURS LATER
AS THEY NEAR THE TEST-
ING GROUNDS.

HERE COME THE
ARMY PLANES!
HERE'S WHERE
I LEAVE. YOU'LL
BE SAFE NOW!

WE CAN STILL KEEP
THAT DINNER DATE
!?! MIGHTY HUN-
GRY AFTER TWO
DAYS OF FASTING.

WHAT A STORY
THIS IS, BUT WHEN
WILL I SEE YOU?

YOU'VE DONE YOUR
COUNTRY A GREAT
SERVICE, YOUNG
WOMAN!

DON'T THANK ME-
THANK THE COMET.

DON'T
HURT
ME, I'LL
CONFESS!

LATER THAT EVENING AT A
TABLE FOR TWO.

INSTEAD OF FILLING
YOU FULL OF LEAD,
NOW EVERYONE
WANTS TO FILL
YOU FULL OF
MEDALS.

FUNNY, ISN'T IT?
AND ALL I WANT
TO DO IS FILL
MYSELF FULL OF
NICE JUICY STEAKS!

DAILY BLAST
COMET RECOVERS
FLYING JUGGERNAUT!

U.S. ARMY
ASKS CON-
GRESSIONAL
MEDAL...
BY THELMA
GORDON.

MORE ADVENTURES OF - THE COMET - IN THE NEXT
NUMBER OF - PEP COMICS -

PERRY CHASE THE *PRESS GUARDIAN*



ONLY CYNTHIA BLAKE, PERRY CHASE'S SECRETARY KNOWS THAT PERRY IS THE INDOMITABLE *PRESS GUARDIAN* — IN THE LAST ISSUE THE AMBASSADOR FROM LANFIA WAS KIDNAPPED AND AN IM-POSTER, WHO WAS TRYING TO RUIN THAT NATION'S FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, SET OUT TO BLOW UP THE TREMENDOUS DU VON MUNITIONS PLANT — AND PLACE THE BLAME FOR THE CRIME ON THE HEAD OF THE AMBASSADOR FROM LANFIA!

by MESMIN AND SUNDELL

MEANWHILE THE *PRESS GUARDIAN*, ACCOMPANIED BY CYNTHIA AND THE TRUE AMBASSADOR FROM LANFIA ARE CLOSE ON THE BOMBER'S TRAIL!

WAIT FOR ME HERE, I'VE GOT TO STOP HIS EXPLOSION FROM GOING OFF!

THE CLAW WILL PAY ME WELL FOR THIS NIGHT'S WORK!

THERE HE GOES!

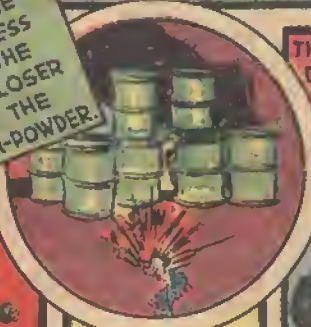
AS HE ENTERS THE FACTORY, THE *PRESS GUARDIAN* SEES THE FUSE, BURNING CLOSER AND CLOSER TO THE BARRELS OF GUN-POWDER.

THE *PRESS GUARDIAN* DASHES INTO THE FACE OF ALMOST CERTAIN DEATH!

WOW!

I'VE GOT TO STOP THAT FUSE!

IF THAT FUSE REACHES THOSE BARRELS.....



PERRY HURLS HIMSELF AT THE KEGS OF GUNPOWDER KNOCKING THEM AWAY FROM THE SPUTTERING FUSE!



THEN STAMPS OUT THE HISsing SPARKS!



WHEW, THAT WAS CLOSE!

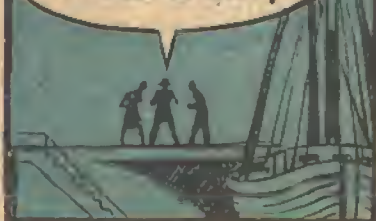


ARE YOU ALL RIGHT. PER...ER...
PRESS
GUARDIAN!

YES! THAT DANGER IS PAST! BUT THERE WILL BE OTHERS!



UNLESS WE CAN BRING THESE SABOTEURS OUT INTO THE OPEN, THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT THEY'LL TRY NEXT! TAKE THE AMBASSADOR TO THE PUBLISHER'S OFFICE OF THE DAILY EXPRESS AND TELL HIM THE WHOLE STORY!

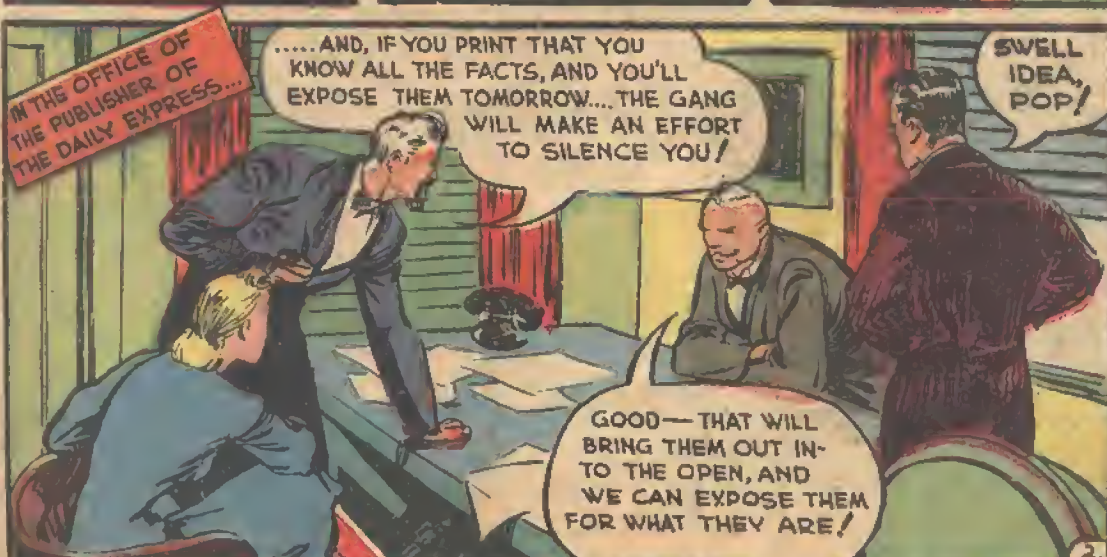


PSST—CYNTHIA! I'LL MEET YOU THERE, BUT AS PERRY CHASE!



IN THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLISHER OF THE DAILY EXPRESS...

.....AND, IF YOU PRINT THAT YOU KNOW ALL THE FACTS, AND YOU'LL EXPOSE THEM TOMORROW...THE GANG WILL MAKE AN EFFORT TO SILENCE YOU!



SWELL IDEA, POP!

GOOD—THAT WILL BRING THEM OUT INTO THE OPEN, AND WE CAN EXPOSE THEM FOR WHAT THEY ARE!

IN A ROOM BE-
LOW AN INNOCENT WATER-
FRONT SHACK!

WE SHALL NOT FAIL
IN OUR NEXT ATTEMPT
TO DESTROY THE
DU VON PLANT!



SUDDENLY...



HEY, CLAW!
LOOKIT DIS!

WE HAVE BEEN
BETRAYED!



DAILY EXPRESS-
SENSATIONAL
EXPOSE OF IN-
TERNATIONAL SPY
RING!

WATCH THIS COLUMN
TOMORROW, FOR
THE TRUE FACTS
ABOUT THE AT-
TEMPTED DESTRU-
TION OF THE
DU VON MUNITIONS
PLANT...

HMM-VERY INTEREST-
ING-THERE IS ONLY
ONE AMONG US
WHO COULD HAVE
SQUEALED!



THAT PERSON
IS.....



YOU!

NO! NO!
I SWEAR
IT!
UGH...H..!



THE DU VON BOMBER MEETS DEATH
AT THE HANDS OF THE CLAW!

THAT STORY MUST NOT BE PRINTED!
THE PUBLISHER HAS A SON. WE
WILL SEIZE HIM-AND FORCE
THE PUBLISHER INTO NOT
PRINTING THOSE FACTS!



THAT EVENING.....AS
PERRY CHASE LEAVES
THE DAILY EXPRESS
BUILDING.....

HURRY UP,
CYNTHIA!

THAT'S
THE GUY!



START WALKING,
BUDDY, TOWARD
THE WATERFRONT!
AND KEEP
YOUR LIP
BUTTONED!



OH DEAR!
GANGSTERS!
HOW TERRIBLE!

AS CYNTHIA STEPS OUT
OF THE BUILDING.....



OH, OH! PERRY'S
GETTING ACTION
SOONER THAN
HE THOUGHT!

WELL, HERE GOES,
GOOD THING
PERRY GAVE
ME THIS
GUN!



THAT SHACK IS THE
ONLY PLACE THEY
COULD HAVE GONE!



CYNTHIA
CAUTIOUSLY OPENS
THE DOOR!

NO ONE IN HERE —
THAT'S STRANGE....
OH-OH- WHAT'S
THAT?

A TRAPDOOR!



AND UNLESS YOUR FATHER FORGETS ALL ABOUT THAT DU VON BUSINESS—YOU DIE!

BETTER BUMP HIM OFF ANYWAY, BOSS! HE KNOWS TOO MUCH!

SUDDENLY A SHOT RINGS OUT!

I COULD HAVE PUT THAT BULLET THROUGH YOUR HEAD—IF I WANTED TO.... NOW UNTIE HIM.... FAST! AND DROP THAT GUN, YOU WITH THE WATER ON THE BRAIN!

CRIPES! A DAME!

A "DAME" SHE MAY BE, BUT SHE SHOOTS TOO WELL. RELEASE YOUNG CHASE!

A FEW MOMENTS LATER, PERRY AND CYNTHIA ARE DASHING ALONG THE DOCKS TOWARD THE DAILY EXPRESS!

THEY'LL BE AFTER US IN A MINUTE!

THERE THEY GO! INTO THE DELIVERY ENTRANCE OF THE NEWSPAPER PLANT! FOLLOW THEM!

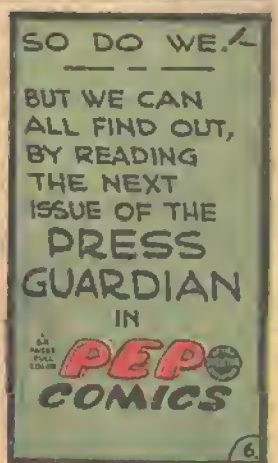
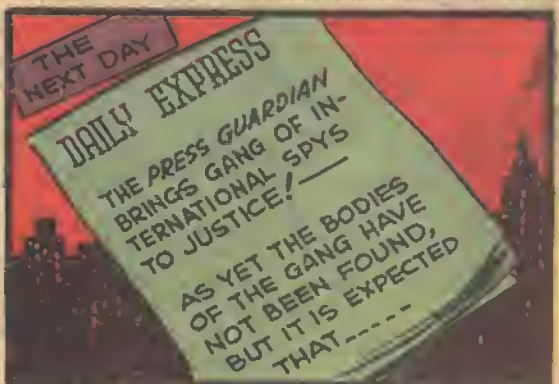
BUT WHEN THEY ARRIVE, INSTEAD OF PERRY CHASE, THEY ARE GREETED BY.....



AS THE THUGS CHARGE UP THE RAMP, THE PRESS GUARDIAN HOPS BEHIND SOME ROLLS OF PAPER!



WELL CYNTHIA, THERE GOES THE CLAW!



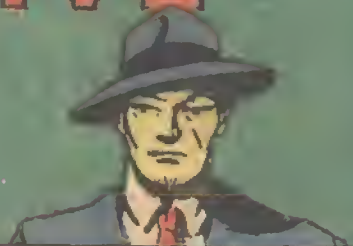
FU CHANG

International

DETECTIVE

FU CHANG, CHINESE SCHOLAR
EDUCATED IN AMERICA, IS
HEIR TO THE MAGIC CHESSMEN
OF ALADDIN. WITH THEIR AID,
HE COMBATS THE FORCES OF EVIL
OPERATING AGAINST THE PEACE-
FUL PEOPLE OF HIS CHINATOWN.

By Jos Blanc & Stettin



FU CHANG AND HIS FIANCEE, TAY HING,
SPEED HOMEWARD AFTER DESTROYING
THE WATER DEMONS OF JOODAR THE EVIL.

PEACE WILL AGAIN
PREVAIL IN CHINATOWN!

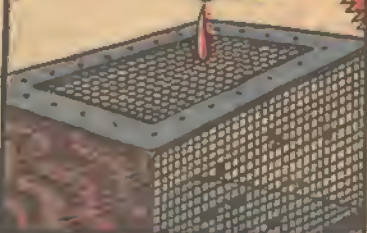


BUT JOODAR THE EVIL IS NOT DEFEATED!..

AH! I HAVE COMBINED THE
GERMS OF DISEASE!....



FIRST, I ALLOW THIS CAGE
OF MOSQUITOES TO ABSORB
THE GERMS...



NOW! I SHALL RELEASE THE
INSECTS TO ATTACK ALL OF
CHINATOWN...



SOMETIME LATER AS FU CHANG
AND TAY HING ARRIVE...

SHI-LEE IS LATE TO HIS SHOP
THIS MORNING...



AS IS KU-TZE, WHOSE
SHOP IS ALSO CLOSED.

IS IT A HOLIDAY?
OLD FOY SUN IS
ABSENT ALSO!

FOY SUN DWELLS
ABOVE HIS
SHOP. LET US
VISIT HIM!

DOCTOR TEN! YOU
COME FROM FOY
SUN'S! IS HE
ILL?

I REGRET! AS
ARE SCORES OF OUR
NEIGHBORS!

WHAT CAUSES
THIS STRANGE
OUTBREAK?

I AM BE-
WILDERED/
THE
SYMPTOMS
CONTRA-
DICT
THEM-
SELVES!

BY YOUR
LEAVE, WE
SHALL PAY
OUR RE-
SPECTS TO
THE UNFOR-
TUNATE ONES!

TAY MING! IN THE HOME OF EACH BED-RID-
DEN PERSON, I HAVE NOTICED A MOS-
QUITO! THIS ONE I HAVE
CAPTURED I SHALL
TAKE TO MY
LABORATORY!

AFTER SEVERAL HOURS OF INTENSIVE STUDY....

YES! THIS MOS-
QUITO IS
CARRYING
BACTERIA
OF MANY
DISEASES!

YOU HAVE DISCOVERED
SOMETHING,
FU CHANG?

PERHAPS THE GOD OF
MY ANCESTORS WILL
ENLIGHTEN ME ON
THIS MYSTERY!

FU CHANG REPAIRS TO HIS
DEN OF MAGIC!

GREAT GOD OF
MY FATHER,
BRING ME AID
IN MY TIME
OF NEED!

CREATURE, AID FU CHANG!
SEEK OUT THE CREATOR OF
DISEASE AND SICKNESS!

THE GOD SPEAKS! A
CHESSMAN COMES TO LIFE! (2)

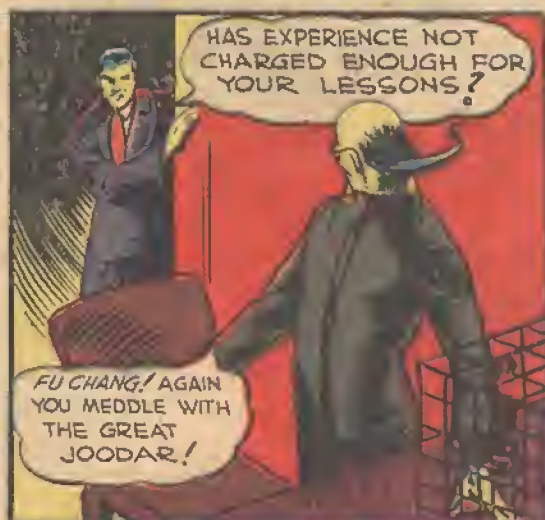
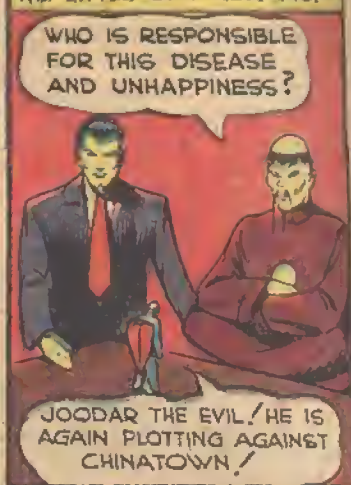
SWIFT AS THOUGHT, THE LITTLE
SPY SPEEDS ON HIS ERRAND!!



STRAIGHT TO THE ROOMS OF
JOODAR THE EVIL!



THE LITTLE SPY RETURNS!



THE WISE MAN DOES NOT
INTRUDE WHERE HE IS NOT
WANTED, BECAUSE SOME-
TIMES.....



THOSE WHO ARE INTRUDED UPON
OBJECT.....STRENUOUSLY!



~ WATCH FOR THE FIREFLY!! ~

THESE BONDS SHALL
HOLD HIM, AND WHEN
HE REGAINS HIS
SENSES, I SHALL
DELIGHT HIM WITH MY
DISCOVERY!



JOODAR WORKS FEVERISHLY
UNTIL FU CHANG RECOVERS!

AH! THE SLEEPER
AWAKENS! YOU WOULD
SEE WHAT I HAVE HERE?
LOOK CLOSE, FU CHANG!



FU CHANG'S BEWILDERED
EYES BEHOLD.....



HA! HA! IS IT NOT A BEAUTY?
THIS MONSTER OF MY
CREATION!

IN THE NAME
OF ALL THAT'S
HOLY! WHAT
IS THAT THING?



INOCULATED WITH BACTERIA,
IT WILL SOON WREAK
HAVOC THROUGH ALL
CHINATOWN!



YOU INSANE MADMAN!
COME BACK!

HA! HA! I GO FIRST
TO TURN THE
MONSTER LOOSE
AGAINST THE
PROUD TAY MING!



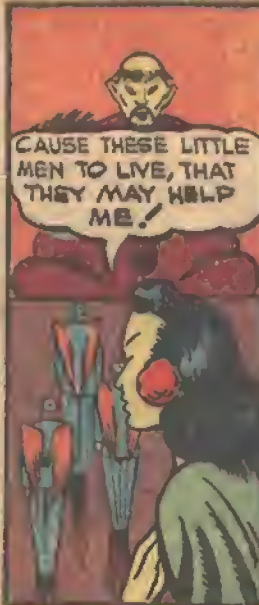
ALARMED AT FU CHANG'S AB-
SENCE, TAY MING ENTERS THE
DEN OF MAGIC.....



GOD OF OUR ANCES-
TORS, WHAT
DANGERS THREATEN
MY BELOVED?



GRAVE DANGERS,
TAY MING! EVEN
NOW JOODAR HAS
HIM POWERLESS!



CAUSE THESE LITTLE
MEN TO LIVE, THAT
THEY MAY HELP
ME!

ONCE AGAIN THE GOD
RELEASES THE LIGHT
OF LIFE!

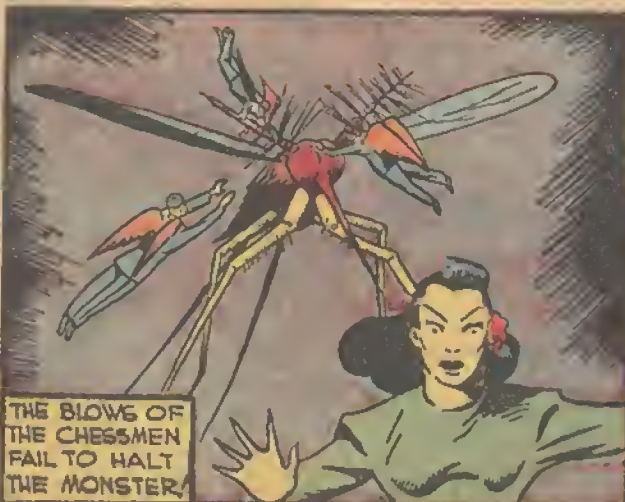


LITTLE MEN
OF MAGIC,
AID TAY
MING!

BUT AT THAT VERY IN-
STANT.....



OH
HELP!



THE BLOWE OF
THE CHESSMEN
FAIL TO HALT
THE MONSTER!

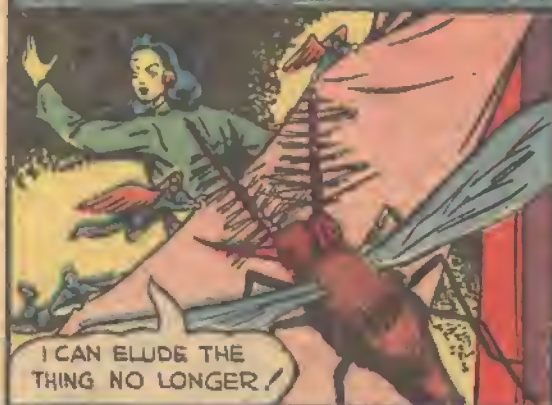
MEANWHILE

STRUGGLING DESPERATELY, FU
CHANG MANAGES TO ESCAPE
FROM HIS BONDS!

I MUST HURRY!
ONE BITE FROM
THE MONSTER
MEANS IN-
STANT
DEATH!



JUST AS THE CREATURE IS ABOUT TO STRIKE...



I CAN ELUDE THE
THING NO LONGER!

THE CHESSMEN GRASP THE CURTAIN
AND IMPRISON THE CREATURE
BENEATH IT!



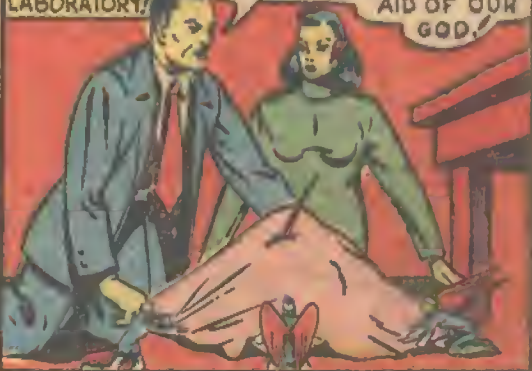
TAY MING! YOU
ARE NOT HARMED?

NOT YET,
FU CHANG!



THEY HURRY
TO FU CHANG'S
LABORATORY!

I HAVE TRIED, BUT I CANNOT
KILL IT! GO! ASK THE
AID OF OUR
GOD!



GREAT GOD OF OUR FORE-
FATHERS, AGAIN I
SEEK YOUR AID —



YES, I KNOW TAY MING!
THE LITTLE DOCTOR
WILL KILL THE MON-
STER!

WITH A HYPO NEEDLE FILLED
WITH BACTERIA, THE CHESS-
MAN ATTACKS THE MOSQUITO!



THE INJECTION KILLS THE
MONSTER INSTANTLY!

CONFUCIOUS SAY! 'BUG NOT
SO BAD AS WHEN NOT IN
BONNET OF MAD INVENTOR?'



FU CHANG LEAVES HIS BELOVED
CHINATOWN TO FIND ADVENTURE
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD —
IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF
PEP COMICS

SERGEANT BOYLE



by BIRO
and SUNDELL

SERGEANT BOYLE, EX ALL AMERICAN HALFBACK, HAS JOINED THE BRITISH ARMY. THROUGH HIS SPECTACULAR FIGHTING ABILITY HE HAS EARNED THE ENVY OF EVERY BRITISH SOLDIER AND THE HATRED OF EVERY GERMAN!!

SLUSH, MUD, RAIN! AND THE MESS WAGON IS A DAY LATE, GETTING HERE.

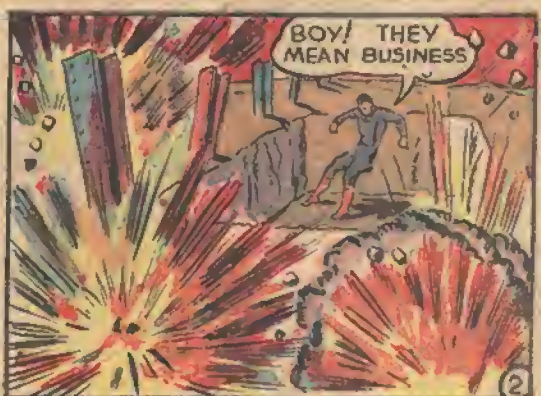
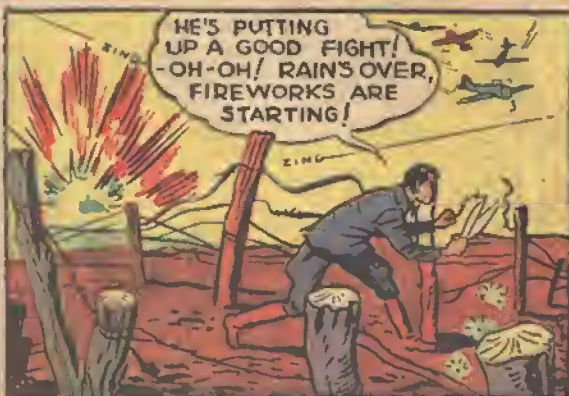
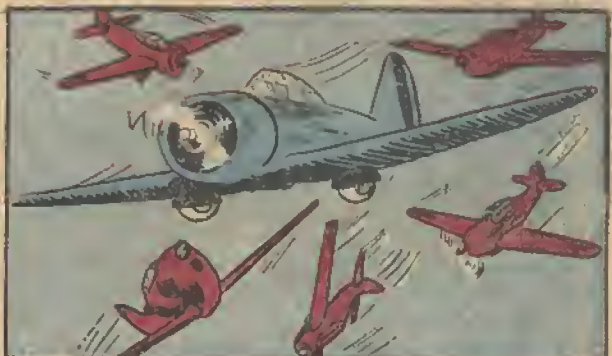
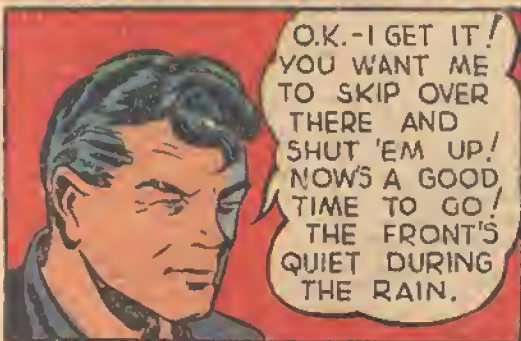
THEM
'EINIES OVER
THERE H'AIN'T
SO WRONG!

WE ARE NOT YOUR ENEMIES.... YOUR ENEMY IS THAT OLD MAN WITH THE UMBRELLA!
HOW WOULD HE LIKE TO STAND OUT IN THIS RAIN....? GIVE YOURSELVES UP! WE HAVE SHELTER AND HOT FOOD AWAITING YOU. HOW WOULD YOU LIKE SOME NICE WIENERSCHNITZEL AND BOCK BEER?

SNAP TO
IT, BOYS,
AND KEEP
AWAKE THERE

PHRRRT!

?





ENGLISH FRIENDS!
WE OFFER YOU PEACE
AND SECURITY, QUIET AND
REST, AND PLENTY OF
FOOD--- LAY DOWN
YOUR ARMS!

HO-HO!!
THAT'S A LAUGH
PEACE / LIKE
THE FOURTH OF
JULY!!

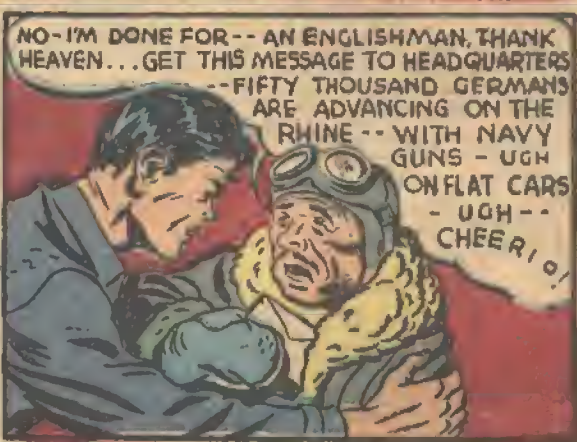


CRASH

THEY GOT HIM!
POOR DUCK,
MAYBE HE'S
STILL ALIVE-



C'MON, BOY,
YOU'LL SOON
BE GOOD
AS NEW!



NO-I'M DONE FOR-- AN ENGLISHMAN, THANK
HEAVEN... GET THIS MESSAGE TO HEADQUARTERS
--FIFTY THOUSAND GERMANS
ARE ADVANCING ON THE
RHINE -- WITH NAVY
GUNS - UGH
ON FLAT CARS
- UGH--
CHEERIO!



TOO BAD! WELL, I'VE
GOT TO GET THIS MES-
SAGE THROUGH, BUT
IT'S SUICIDE TO TRY
TO GO BACK THROUGH
THAT HELL-FIRE!



MACH
SCHNELL!

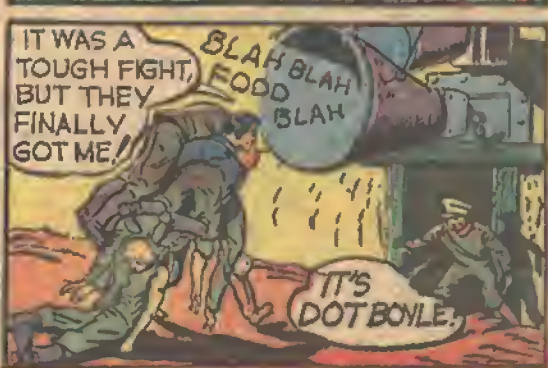
HERE COME THE
VULTURES. IF HE
WEREN'T DEAD
THEY'D FINISH HIM...
..THEY WERE BARKING
TO GIVE OURSELVES UP.
THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO!

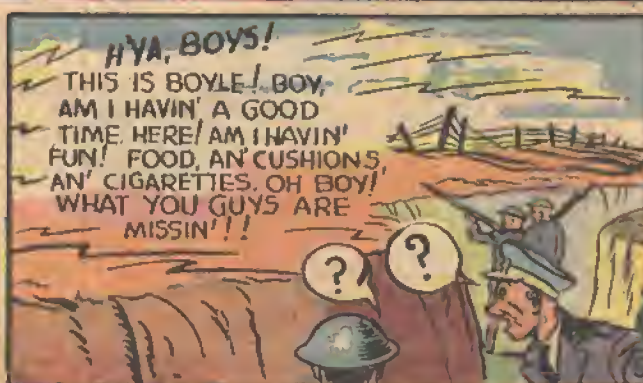
LOOK!
AN ENGLISHER!

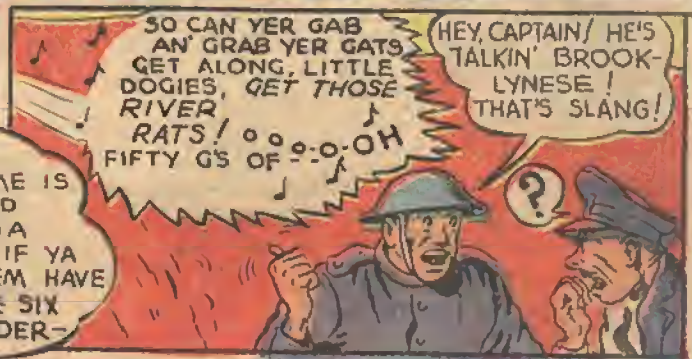
H'YA BOYS--KEEP
YOUR SHIRTS ON.
I'M GIVING MYSELF
UP--LEAD ME TO
THAT PEACE AND
QUIET!

WE
KILL!

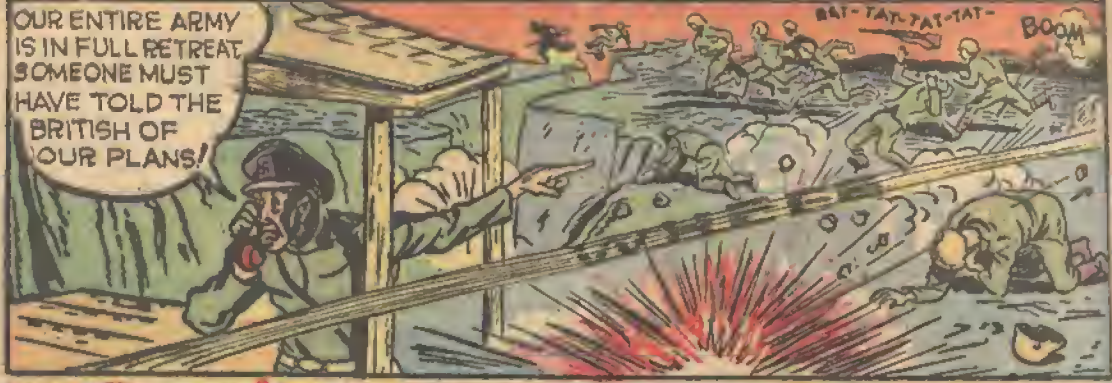
HEY/LET'S
TALK THIS
OVER.I WANT
THEM WEINER
SCHNITZELS.







OUR ENTIRE ARMY
IS IN FULL RETREAT.
SOMEONE MUST
HAVE TOLD THE
BRITISH OF
OUR PLANS!



WE WERE
FOOLS!
SHTOP HIM!

FIFTY-G'S
OF SOUR
KRAUTS-



YOU PLAY THIS A
WHILE!



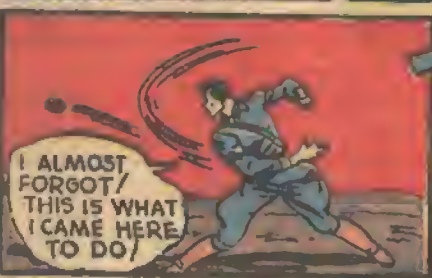
STATION B-O-Y-
L-E-SIGNING
OR OFF!



SOME BODY
SHOOT HIM,
QVICK!



I ALMOST
FORGOT!
THIS IS WHAT
I CAME HERE
TO DO!



DON'T SHOOT! YEA!
IT'S ME! BOYS, 'ERE
BOYLE!



YOU DID A SWELL
JOB, BOYLE. I'LL
SEE THAT YOU'RE
DECORATED.

COME ON,
TWERP -
WHAT ARE YOU
SO GLUM ABOUT?
AREN'T YOU
GLAD TO SEE
ME BACK?



YES, I'M GLAD. BUT YOU
DIDN'T HAVE TO CALL ME
A BOW-LEGGED BABOON!



THERE'S MORE
OF
SERGEANT
BOYLE
IN NEXT ISSUE OF

**PEP
COMICS**

LEE SAMPSON...

MIDSHIPMAN



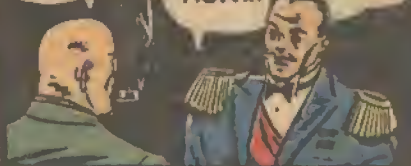
MIDSHIPMAN LEE SAMPSON IS STILL CRUISING WITH THE U.S. NAVY DURING THE SUMMER MANEUVERS FOR THE MIDSHIPMEN OF ANNAPOLIS...THE BATTLESHIP IS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO RIGHT OFF THE COAST OF FLORIDA..

THE MIDSHIPMEN ATTEND A FAREWELL PARTY BEFORE THEY EMBARK FOR HOME..



THE CAPTAIN OF LEE'S SHIP AND THE HOST, JR SHIPLEY, WEALTHY PLANTATION OWNER

WELL, IT'S REALLY AGAINST REGULATIONS, BUT OUR MIDSHIPMEN HAVE WORKED HARD AND NEED THE RECREATION...



LATER... IN THE GARDEN..

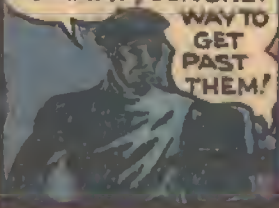
EVERYTHING IS SET.. NO SLIP-UPS NOW!

LEAVE IT TO US, CHIEF!



IT'S AN AWFUL CHANCE WE'RE TAKIN' CHIEF, FOOLIN' AROUND WID DE U.S. NAVY!

SHUT UP, FOOL! THE COAST GUARD IS TOO CAGEY. THIS IS OUR ONLY WAY TO GET PAST THEM!

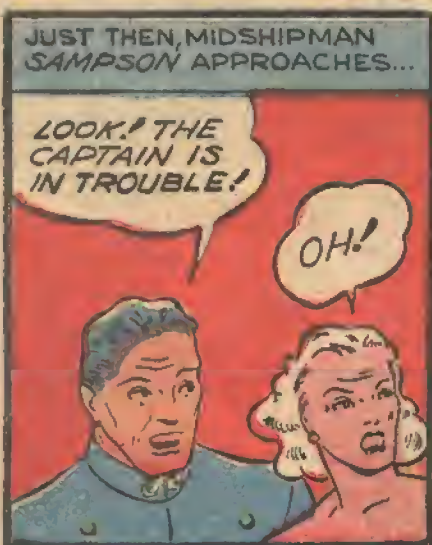


OH, MR. SAMPSON... I DIDN'T KNOW THEY MADE MIDSHIPMEN SO HANDSOME AND SUCH GOOD DANCERS!

WELL.. ER.. AH..



MEANWHILE..



AS LEE LIES UNCONSCIOUS
THE THUGS RECOVER...

WOT'LL WE
DO WIT DE
DAME, BOSS?

TAKE HER
ALONG, OR
ELSE SHE'LL
TALK!



THE SMUGGLERS
SPEED OFF IN TWO
CARS WITH THE CAPTAIN,
LEE AND THE GIRL



THEY SOON REACH
THEIR DESTINATION

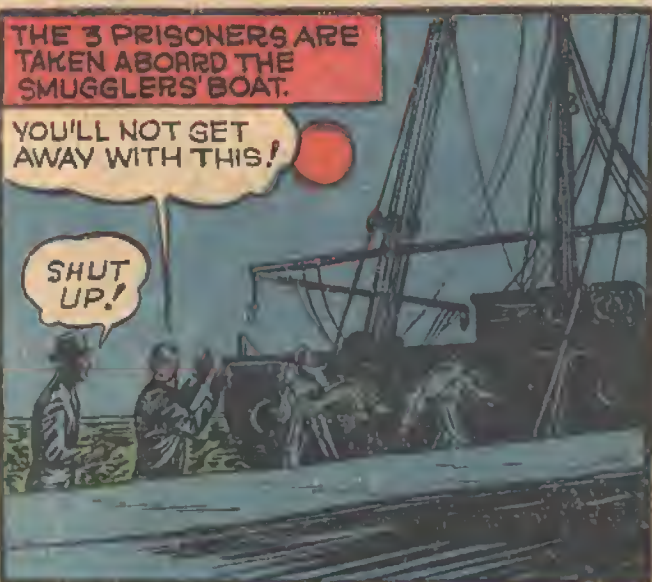
DERE'S OUR
BOAT WAITIN'
FER US!



THE 3 PRISONERS ARE
TAKEN ABOARD THE
SMUGGLERS' BOAT.

YOU'LL NOT GET
AWAY WITH THIS!

SHUT
UP!



THE PRISONERS ARE STOWED
IN THE HOLD

WHAT DO THEY
WANT WITH
US?

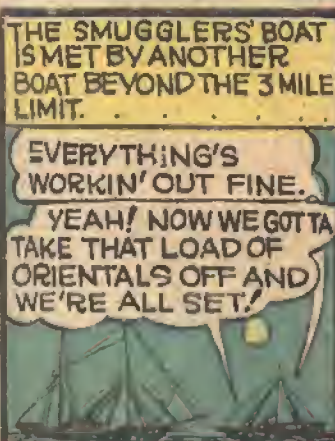
I DON'T KNOW!
BUT WE'LL SOON
FIND OUT!



THE SMUGGLERS' BOAT
IS MET BY ANOTHER
BOAT BEYOND THE 3 MILE
LIMIT.

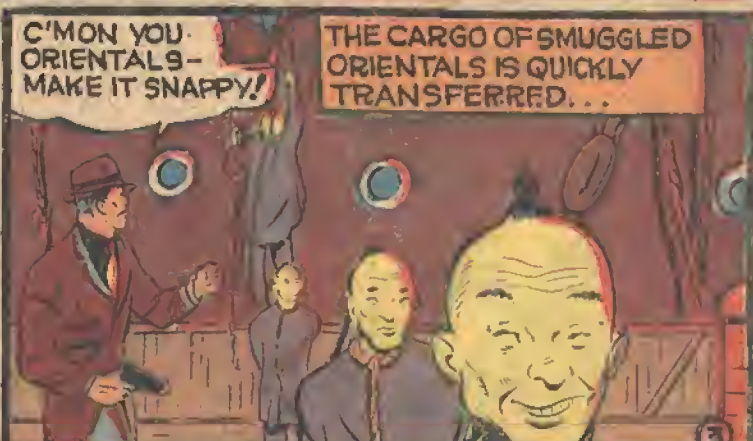
EVERYTHING'S
WORKIN' OUT FINE.

YEAH! NOW WE GOTTA
TAKE THAT LOAD OF
ORIENTALS OFF AND
WE'RE ALL SET!



C'MON YOU
ORIENTALS—
MAKE IT SNAPPY!

THE CARGO OF SMUGGLED
ORIENTALS IS QUICKLY
TRANSFERRED...



WHO IS THE FIREFLY????

THE SMUGGLERS SOON MAKE
THEIR WAY BACK TO SHORE.

GET THE CAPTAIN
UP HERE IN A
HURRY.

OKAY!



THE CAPTAIN IS IMMEDIATELY FETCHED ON DECK.

HERE'S WHERE YOU FIT
INTO DE PICTURE, CAPTAIN...
WE'RE USIN' YOU FOR A
FRONT WHEN DE COASTIES
COME UP TO US DEY
ALL KNOW YOU.

AN' NO
FUNNY
BUSINESS
CAP -



YOU'RE GOIN' TO TELL
DEM WE'RE A COUPLE OF
FRIENDS OF YOURS. ONE
SLIP AND YOU'LL NEVER
SEE DAYLIGHT AGAIN.

YOU CAN'T
FRIGHTEN
ME! I WON'T
DO IT!



OKAY! DEN WE
RUB OUT DE
DAME AND DE
OTHER SAILOR
BOY!

Y.. YOU CAN'T
DO THAT! IT..
IT'S... ALL
RIGHT, I'LL
DO IT!



JUST THEN, LEE REGAINS
CONSCIOUSNESS.

WHERE AM I?..WHAT.

OH LEE! WE'RE
PRISONERS ON THIS
BOAT. WHAT
DO WE DO
NOW?



THIS BOTTLE GIVES
ME AN IDEA!



AS THE COAST GUARD DRAWS
ALONG SIDE, THE CAPTAIN
IS BROUGHT TO THE FORE.

STAND BY
FOR
BOARDING!

IT, IT'S ALL
RIGHT THERE.
THESE ARE
JUST FRIENDS
OF MINE. WE...
WE'RE JUST HAVING
A LITTLE PARTY!



THE COAST GUARD RECOGNIZES
CAPTAIN WRIGLEY.

WHY, IT'S YOU-SIR. I DON'T
THINK WE'LL HAVE TO SEARCH
YOU FOR CONTRABAND.
HA, HA!



AS THE COAST GUARD LEAVES

WE SURE
PULLED A
FAST ONE ON
DEM COASTIES,
EH?

YEAH—NOW
TO HEAD
FOR NEW
ORLEANS.



MEANWHILE, MIDSHIPMAN
SAMPSON STRUGGLES
TO CUT AWAY HIS BONDS. . .

THIS BROKEN BOTTLE WAS
A LIFE-SAVER.
I'LL BE FREE IN
A MINUTE.



WHOOPS—LOOKS LIKE
WE HAVE COMPANY--
I'LL DUCK!



BUT AS LEE STARTS TO
FREE THE GIRL, FOOT-
STEPS APPROACH. . .

A THUG ENTERS --

HEY, DE SAILOR
BOY'S GONE!



NOT YET--I'VE BEEN
SAVING SOMETHING
FOR YOU.

HUH?



THE THUG DRAWS A
KNIFE.

WHY YOU DIRTY--



HE LUNGES AT LEE, WHO
SIDESTEPS -- --

YOU'RE A LITTLE
OFF IN YOUR
TIMING.



I'LL HAVE YOU FREE
IN NO TIME! WE'VE
GOT TO GET TO THE
CAPTAIN.



LET'S T'ROW HIM IN DE DRINK!

SO IT'S YOU-SHIPLEY-YOU'RE BEHIND ALL THIS.

QUITE SO CAPTAIN WRIGLEY, BUT YOU'LL NEVER LIVE TO TELL OF IT!

GREAT SCOT! IT'S SAMPSON! HOW DID HE GET LOOSE?

MEANWHILE - UP ON DECK.

BE CAREFUL, MR. SAMPSON.

LEE WADES INTO THE THUGS WITH THE FURY OF A MAD TIGER.

THAT'S TWO!

A-A-AH

WE'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU SAILOR BOY.

THE SMUGGLERS DARE NOT SHOOT AT SAMPSON FOR FEAR OF ATTRACTING THE COAST GUARD.

LEE GRABS THE 3RD THUG AND REACHES FOR HIS GUN.

MIND IF I BORROW THIS--AS LONG AS YOU AREN'T GOING TO DO ANY SHOOTING.

OW!

BANG
BANG

HOLY JEEPERS! HERE COMES DE COASTIES!

LET'S BEAT IT!

BUT THE COAST GUARD CAPTURES THE FLEEING SMUGGLERS.

GOOD WORK CAPTAIN-SHIPLEY IS THEIR LEADER.

WHAT? NO WONDER THEY'VE BEEN GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER!

NEXT DAY CAPTAIN WRIGLEY EXPLAINS TO LEE THAT'S WHY SHIPLEY WAS SO ANXIOUS TO HAVE US COME TO HIS PARTY.

IT CERTAINLY WAS A CLEVER PLAN--SIR.

THE CRUISE IS OVER AND THE MIDSHIPMEN RETURN TO THE ACADEMY. DON'T FAIL TO FOLLOW THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF LEE SAMPSON, THE MIDSHIPMAN IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF

PEP COMICS

THE **ROCKET**

AND THE

QUEEN OF DIAMONDS

THE ROCKET AND THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS, WITH THE AID OF PRINCE FALKAR AND A FEW OF HIS LOYAL MEN, FLEE FROM THE MURDEROUS QUEEN ABBIE. WITH THE QUEEN'S MEN IN CLOSE PURSUIT, THEY SEEK SAFETY BY HIDING IN THE DARK FOREST WHICH BORDERS THE HAWK KINGDOM!



THE PARTY PLANS A WAY OF RETURNING TO THE DIAMOND EMPIRE!

WE WILL RETURN WITH MY SOLDIERS, FALKAR, AND DRIVE ABBIE FROM YOUR THRONE!



GOOD, THE PEOPLE WILL RISE AGAINST HER WHEN I RETURN WITH AN ARMY!

THAT EVENING THE SMALL PARTY CAMPS ON THE BANK OF A STREAM



WE MADE IT! THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FIND US IN HERE, FALKAR!



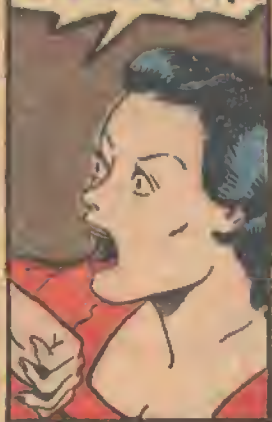
LATE THAT NIGHT, AS THE FIRE DIES DOWN, HUNDREDS OF MUD LIZARDS SILENTLY CLOSE IN ON THE CAMP!



SUDDENLY, THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS IS WAKED BY A STRANGE HISsing NOISE.



HELP!
ROCKET!!



HORRIFIED, THE QUEEN TRIES TO FLEE !!

MY ARM!
OH!

CAREFUL! WE'RE COMING!!



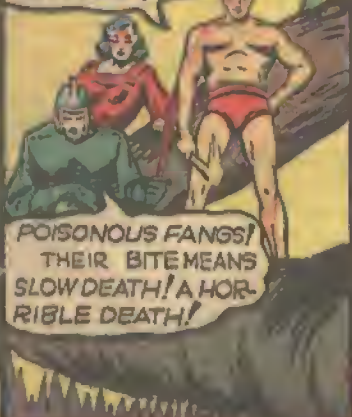
RUN! RUN FOR A TREE—
THERE ARE TOO MANY
TO FIGHT.



DESPERATELY, THE ROCKET
AND FALKAR'S MEN FIGHT
OFF THE LIZARDS WITH
THE REMAINS OF THEIR
CAMP FIRE.



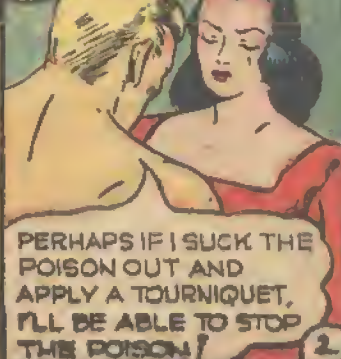
THANK GOODNESS WE'RE
SAFE. THOSE BEASTS
HAVE FANGS LIKE
SNAKES!



IT IS NOT UNTIL THAT MOMENT
THAT THE ROCKET REALIZES—
YOUR ARM! THAT LIZARD
BIT YOU! WE HAVEN'T A
SECOND TO LOSE!



IT'S NO USE TRYING TO
SAVE MY LIFE. MY DOCTOR,
IN THE DIAMOND EMPIRE, IS
THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS
THE CURE!



WITH THE POISON STOPPED MOMENTARILY, THEY SET OUT FOR THE DIAMOND EMPIRE



WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME! THE QUEEN IS FAILING FAST!

ALL NIGHT AND ALL DAY, THEY CHOP THEIR WAY THRU THE THICK JUNGLES



WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO MAKE THE EMPIRE AT THIS RATE

WHEN SUDDENLY THE ROCKET IS STARTLED BY A WEIRD CRY.



LOOK-A BABY HORNED MAMMOTH!



POOR CREATURE, IT'S BEING STRANGLER BY THAT VINE. MAYBE WE CAN HELP IT!

THEY CUT THE ANIMAL LOOSE---



WELL, YOU'RE FREE NOW—RUN HOME TO YOUR MOTHER.

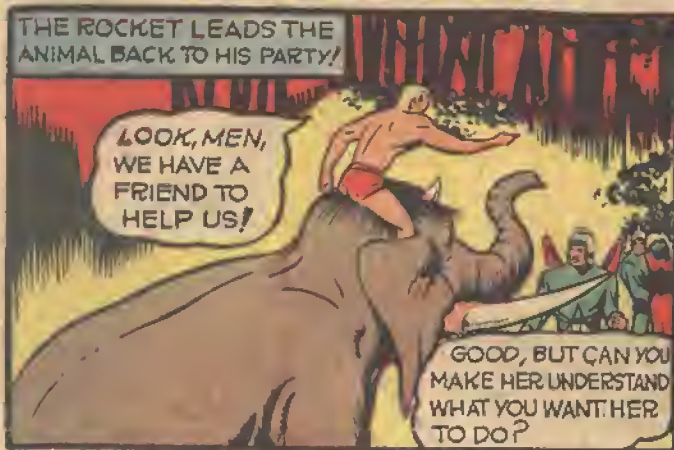
CUTE LITTLE FELLOW, EH— HE WANTS TO SHOW US HE'S GRATEFUL



AT THAT MOMENT THE MOTHER OF THE HORNED MAMMOTH CHARGES UPON THEM!



RUN FOR IT!





LUCK IS WITH THEM... THEY ESCAPE THE DETECTION OF QUEEN ABBIE'S MEN... AND IN A SHORT WHILE THEY ARE OVER THE DIAMOND EMPIRE!



LOOK! HAWKMEN! WITH THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS — GRAB THEM WHEN THEY LAND — RETLEK, THE TERRIBLE, WILL BE GLAD TO SEE THEM!

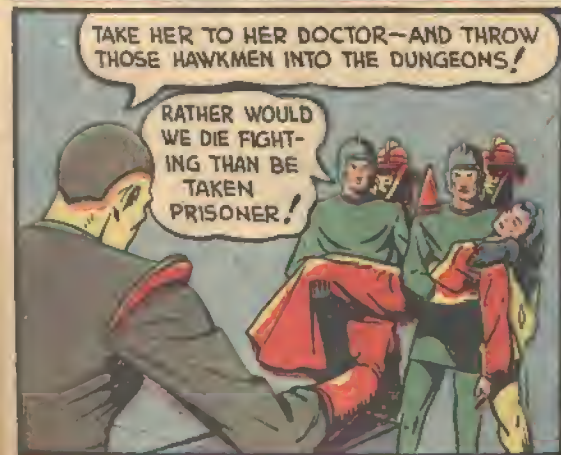
THE QUEEN IS CARRIED BEFORE THE THRONE OF RETLEK, THE TERRIBLE.....



WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE EX-QUEEN OF DIAMONDS?

SHE NEEDS THE IMMEDIATE AID OF HER DOCTOR!

SO—SHE COMES BACK— SHE THOUGHT THE ROCKET HAD DISPOSED OF ME, BUT SHE WAS WRONG/ SHE LEFT HER EMPIRE FOR TOO LONG, AND NOW I AM THE KING! BUT WORRY NOT, SHE SHALL NOT DIE. MY RULE WILL BE MUCH STRONGER/ WHEN SHE IS MY WIFE..... AND SLAVE!



TAKE HER TO HER DOCTOR—AND THROW THOSE HAWKMEN INTO THE DUNGEONS!

RATHER WOULD WE DIE FIGHTING THAN BE TAKEN PRISONER!



THE HAWKMAN TURNS...

SEIZE HIM!

FALKAR, MY KING, SHALL HEAR OF THIS!

HALF RUNNING-HALF FLYING-THE HAWKMAN
DASHES FOR SAFETY!



AMIDST A SHATTERING OF GLASS, THE HAWKMAN
TEARS THROUGH THE WINDOW!



TRAIN THE LIGHTS
ON HIM AND
BRING HIM
DOWN!



THE HAWKMAN HEADS FOR
THE DARK FOREST!

BLINDED BY THE POWERFUL LIGHTS,
HE FLIES BLINDLY ALONG, UNTIL....

UGH! IT
GOT ME!



WOUNDED, HE PLUMMETS DOWNWARD!



IN THE
FOREST.

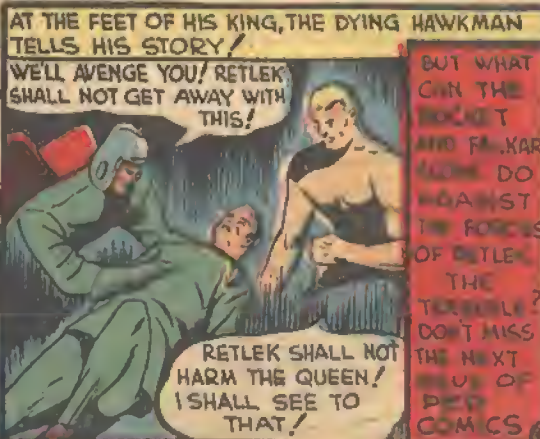
C'MON! LET'S
GET TO HIM!

LOOK-IT'S MY
FOLLOWER!
SOMETHING'S
HAPPENED!



AT THE FEET OF HIS KING, THE DYING HAWKMAN
TELLS HIS STORY!

WE'LL AVENGE YOU! RETLEK
SHALL NOT GET AWAY WITH
THIS!



RETLEK SHALL NOT
HARM THE QUEEN!
I SHALL SEE TO
THAT!

BUT WHAT
CAN THE
ROCKET
AND FA-KAR
DO
AGAINST
THE FORCES
OF BATTLE
THE
TERRIBLE?
DON'T MISS
THE NEXT
ISSUE OF
PEEP
COMICS

A MYSTERY of the SECRET SERVICE

THE Secret Service of the United States now has only two duties. One is to guard the life of the Nation's Chief Executive and the other to detect and prosecute crimes against the currency. All other Federal infractions are handled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation which is an off-shoot of the earlier Department of Justice. This arrangement, one which promotes efficiency, is quite recent.

Time was when the Secret Service had multiple duties, sometimes even being assigned to aid the Treasury Department slouths in rounding up Southern moonshiners. Secret Service men in those days had a wide and divergent experience. Such a pioneer sleuth was Charles William Walker, whose murder in the wilds of the mountains of Southern Colorado has never been solved.

Capt. Walker was chief of the Secret Service for a number of years in Chicago where he was assigned from Washington. In Washington he had been an operative. He won promotion by extraordinarily brave and efficient service. Later he was assigned as chief of the Service in the Northern District of the Mountain States, with headquarters in Denver.

Capt. Walker took a vacation one summer. He rode horseback through

the mountains of Southern Colorado. He was found shot to death beside his horse—the animal half famished. The scene of assassination was a wild spot in the rugged crags near the gold mining camp of Telluride.—Here rainbow trout fishing abounded and it was reported that the fishing had been the lure that took Capt. Walker into the mountain wilds. By others it was hinted that Walker was investigating land frauds alleged to have been perpetrated by mining companies. No substantiation of this version was forthcoming.

The district was one too isolated for most types of crime although it might have hidden a criminal band's hide-out. No trace of the murderer or murderers was ever found. It is possible that Walker rode accidentally into or near some criminal lair. If so it must have been that the crooks either knew or had reason to suspect his identity.

It is possible, too, that some assassin or band of assassins followed him from the East and were waiting for just such an opportunity to put an end to his career as a menace to evil-doers. His record was so excellent and his work so outstanding that when he died department chiefs in Washington referred to his passing as "a heavy and bitter loss to the service."

WATCH FOR
THE RANG-A-TANG CLUB
AND THE RANG-A-TANG HONOR LEGION
EVERY MONTH IN
BLUE RIBBON COMICS

BEWARE! THE FIREFLY IS COMING!

THE *Secret* OF THE SHIELD *Revealed!*



STARRING THE G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY
and THE MAN WITH THE SUPER-BRAIN

SHIELD- WIZARD

comics

No. 1

SMASHING ACTION * * ALL BRAND NEW



10c



THE SHIELD AND
THE WIZARD
MARCH, TODAY

WITH THE
SPIRIT OF '76

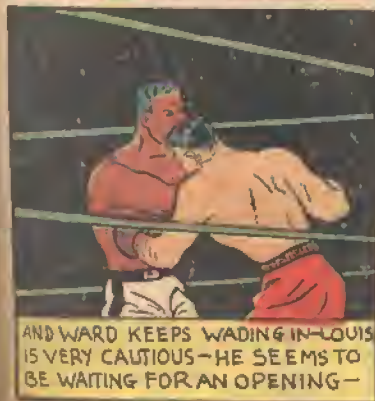
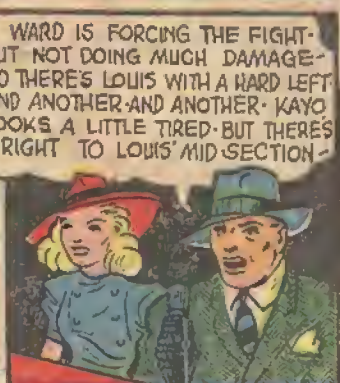
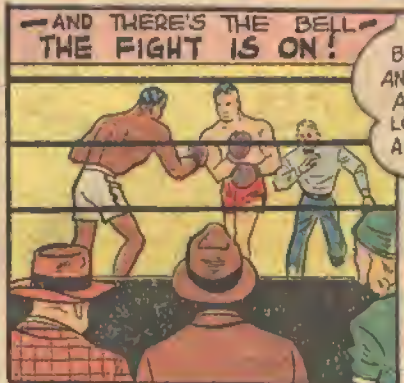
AND FOR THE FIRST TIME THE HISTORICAL
STORY OF **THE WIZARD** IS TOLD —

WATCH FOR IT AT YOUR
NEWSSTAND //

KAYO WARD



IN LAST MONTH'S ISSUE—
THE DAY BEFORE HIS TITLE BOUT WITH JOE LOUIS, KAYO WAS KIDNAPPED BY A GANG — HIS DOUBLE, BEARING AN EXACT LIKENESS TO KAYO, WAS ABOUT TO START THE FIGHT WHEN KAYO WARD HIMSELF BURST IN ON THE SCENE—WITH THREE SWIFT BLOWS, THE INJURED KAYO DISPOSED OF THE IMPOSTOR AND ENTERED THE RING TO START THE BATTLE—



AS KAYO REELS FROM THE STAGGERING BLOW-LOUIS CATCHES HIM WITH A MURDEROUS RIGHT—
WARD IS DOWN!



GOSH I-I CAN'T GET MY BEARINGS



BUT KAYO IS NOT THROUGH FOR THE EVENING - HE'S ON ONE KNEE TAKING THE COUNT - SEVEN - EIGHT -
HE'S UP!

WARD COMES IN SWINGING MADLY - BUT IS WILD - LOUIS STEPS BACK!



WARD CONTINUES TO SWING WILDLY - LOUIS IS MAKING NO ATTEMPT TO HIT HIM!



THE REFEREE STOPS THE FIGHT TO ASK LOUIS WHY HE IS NOT HITTING BACK AT WARD — LOUIS EXPLAINS.

CAN'T YO' SEE DAT MAN AM IN NO CONDITION T' FIGHT? AH CAN'T HIT HIM.



- AND THE FIGHT IS CALLED - BOTH FIGHTERS ARE GIVEN A TREMENDOUS OVATION - WARD FOR HIS COURAGEOUS FIGHTING - LOUIS FOR HIS FINE SPORTSMANSHIP. AND INCIDENTALLY DON'T FORGET TO VISIT YOUR NEAREST HADAM HAT SHOP SOON ETC...ETC.



SINCE THE LAST TUNNEY-DEMPSEY BOUT, NO FIGHT HAS CAUSED SO MUCH PUBLIC COMMENT.



A RETURN MATCH IN THE NEAR FUTURE IS OUT OF THE QUESTION. YOU'VE GOT TO STAY AWAY FROM THE RING FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS.



AFTER A THOROUGH EXAMINATION, THE DOCTOR REPORTS TO KAYO AND LEW

MEANWHILE - AT THE OFFICES OF STUPENDIX FILMS IN HOLLYWOOD - HE'S A NATURAL, J.P. TALL - DARK AND HANDSOME - WE'LL CAST HIM WITH HEDY LA COO!



TWO DAYS LATER AT KAYO'S APARTMENT IN NEW YORK, WE FIND STUPENDIX FILM'S REPRESENTATIVE.

J. JASPER TWIMBLEY MOVIE SCOUT, THAT'S ME - I'VE COME TO TAKE YOU TO HOLLYWOOD WE'LL MAKE YOU A STAR!

BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE A STAR. I WANT A REST.

THAT'S JUST IT - YOU'LL HAVE A REST IN HOLLYWOOD SUNSHINE, FRESH AIR, PEACE AND QUIET - ETC.

THE CALIFORNIA AIR WOULD DO YOU GOOD, KAYO.

ALL RIGHT, CONNIE, I'LL GO - BUT NO ACTING.

I'M GOING BACK TO-MORROW MAYBE WE CAN GO TOGETHER

HOW DOES THAT SUIT YOU LEW?

YOU GO, BUT NOT ME - I MANAGE PRIZE-FIGHTERS - NOT CONVALESCENTS

AND SO - J. JASPER TWIMBLEY AND KAYO SET FORTH FOR THE WEST COAST

HERE'S MY CARD - MR. WARD. IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND ABOUT ACTING - GET IN TOUCH WITH ME.

OKAY.

NOW TO FIND A NICE, QUIET SPOT TO REST.

THEY ARRIVE IN HOLLYWOOD

KAYO GRABS A NEARBY CAB

TAKE ME TO A QUIET HOTEL WHERE I CAN REST.

HAW HAW - WHATTA LAUGH - REST IN THIS BURG!

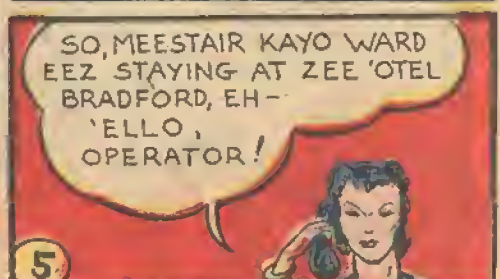
LEAVE MY BAG AT THE DESK, DRIVER - LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE UP AHEAD.

BUT AS KAYO'S CAB PULLS UP AT A HOTEL -

HELP! I'M BEING KIDNAPPED!

QUIET, BABE!





THIS IS KAYO WARD -
WH-MISS LA VEZ?
HUH?

DARLING,
I MUST SEE
YOU. IT IS
VEREE
IMPORTANT

MEET ME
IN THE LOBBY
IN 10 MINUTES
GOOD BYE -

AH - WE MEET!
THE ONLY MAN
WHO EVER DARE
SPANK RUPY.

I INSIST THAT
MY PRODUCER
MAKE YOU MY
LEADING MAN!

BUT GOSH -
I CAN'T ACT!

I HAVE
JUST ZEE
LEADING MAN
FOR MY NEW
PICTURE.

FINE, RUPY!
THE PUBLIC IS
HOLLERING FOR
NEW FACES!

YOU
THIEF!

GOSH, IT
REALLY WAS
A HOLD UP!

IF YOU WERE
THE ONLY ACTOR
IN HOLLYWOOD, I
STILL WOULDN'T
HIRE YOU! SCRAM

I AIN'T SO
KEEN ON
ACTIN' ANY-
WAY!

IZAT SO -
WE WILL SEE
IF KAYO BE -
COME AN
ACTOR OR NOT.

EITHER MEESTAIR
WARD HE MY
LEADING MAN
OR RUPY SHE
SHOOTER
SELF DEAD!

RUPY RUSHES TO
HER BAG AND
DRAWS A GUN!

YES - SURE - ANY-
THING YOU SAY,
RUPY! I PROMISE!
ONLY DON'T KILL
YOURSELF!

RUPY SHE
ALWAYS GET
HER WAY.
THEES TIME
SHE WEEEL GET
HER MAN!

I COULDN'T
LET A LADY
KILL HER-
SELF.

SUCH A
BUSINESS

AND SO KAYO SIGNS A MOVIE CONTRACT.

DON'T
MISS

THE NEXT
ISSUE
of

PEP
COMICS

WIFE
FURTHER ADVENTURES
OF KAYO WARD
IN
HOLLYWOOD

HE LIVES FOR MYSTERY THE FIREFLY!!



BENTLEY

of SCOTLAND YARD

THE CASE OF THE CONGO-CURSE



ONE OF INSPECTOR BENTLEY'S MOST PUZZLING CASES OCCURRED WHEN JOHN MARTIN, THE FAMOUS EXPLORER, RETURNED FROM AFRICA AND INVITED FOUR OF HIS OLD FRIENDS TO HIS HOME FOR A WEEK-END PARTY.....

ANNE DOUGLAS, MARTIN'S CHILDHOOD SWEETHEART WHO IS ENGAGED TO.....



HARRY HARPER, WHO WENT TO COLLEGE WITH.....



ANNE'S BROTHERS: TOM AND DAN.....



IN HER ROOM, ANNE
LIGHTS THE OIL LAMP!

DEAR JOHN/NEVER AWAY
FROM THE JUNGLE LONG
ENOUGH TO HAVE THE
HOUSE ELECTRICALLY
WIRED.



AS THE MEN SETTLE
DOWN TO THEIR GAME.....

WHAT WAS THE
BID? TWO
HEARTS?



THREE SPADES, HARRY!
NEVER SAW YOU SO
FORGETFUL!

SUDDENLY!



HELP! HELP!
RATS! DEMONS!
FIRES! HELP!

ANNE'S
UNHOLY
SHRIEKS
REND
THE
AIR!:



THAT WAS ANNE!
HURRY!

SOMETHING'S
WRONG!

WE'RE
COMING,
SIS!

THE MEN BREAK INTO ANNE'S ROOM!

THAT ODOR!
OPEN THE
WINDOW!

ANNE!
ANNE!

A MADMAN
MUST HAVE
BEEN IN
HERE!



I WAS AFRAID
OF THAT, IT'S
THE JUNGLE
CURSE! I'M
GOING TO
CALL THE
POLICE!



SHE'S
DEAD!

BENTLEY RECEIVES
THE CALL AT SCOT-
LAND YARD!

YES, MR. MARTIN! I'LL
BE RIGHT OVER!
ALLOW NONE OF
THE MEN TO LEAVE
THE HOUSE, NOT
EVEN FOR A
MOMENT!



BEWARE...THE **FIREFLY** IS COMING!

BENTLEY ARRIVES AT THE EXPLORERS HOME!

SO YOU'RE
HARRY
HARPER?
WHERE
ARE
THE
OTHERS?

UPSTAIRS. THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE HERE!

THAT SOUNDED
LIKE MARTIN!

WE HAVEN'T
A MOMENT
TO LOSE!

AT THE DOOR TO MARTIN'S ROOM!

IT CAME FROM
IN THERE!

THE DOOR'S
LOCKED!

AT THAT VERY INSTANT!



HELP!
THE CURSE!
DEMONS!
FIRE! CONGO!

NO ONE EVER SAW
THE INSIDE OF THAT
ROOM BUT MARTIN!

HE KEEPS IT
BOLTED ON THE
INSIDE!

WE'LL HAVE TO
BREAK IT IN!

ONE MORE
HEAVE!

THAT
DOES
IT!

THAT ODOR!
HMM/OPEN
THE WINDOW!

THE ROOM IS A WRECK,
JUST LIKE ANNE'S WAS!

MARTIN
SAID SOME-
THING ABOUT
A CONGO
CURSE....
DO...YOU.....

WELL, HE'S DEAD ENOUGH/ I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO QUESTION YOU GENTLEMEN A BIT/ AND I WANT YOUR COOPERATION!



TOM DOUGLAS HAD A MOTIVE!

...SO WITH YOUR SISTER OUT OF THE WAY, YOU WERE NEXT IN LINE TO INHERIT YOUR FATHER'S FORTUNE?



BUT I DIDN'T, DO IT, AND WHY SHOULD I KILL MARTIN? HE WAS ONE OF MY BEST FRIENDS!

HARRY HARDER MAY HAVE HAD A REASON!

I DON'T MIND TELLING YOU THAT I HATED MARTIN/ BUT I WAS ENGAGED TO MARRY ANNE/ I WOULDN'T HAVE KILLED HER!



DAN DOUGLAS, TOO, HAD SUFFICIENT GROUNDS!

I DID OWE MARTIN A LARGE SUM OF MONEY AND HE WANTED IT IN A HURRY! BUT I WOULDN'T HARM MY SISTER!

WAIT HERE, ALL OF YOU! I'M GOING IN THE OTHER ROOM!



IN THE ROOM OF THE MURDERED GIRL!

THAT ODOR..... FAMILIAR..... YET... AH! THE LAMP!



BENTLEY CAREFULLY SCRAPES A WHITE POWDER FROM THE LAMP!



I HOPE I'M NOT MISTAKEN! NOW TO GO BACK TO MARTIN'S ROOM!

INSPECTOR, WE'VE BEEN TALKING IT OVER/ THERE MUST BE A MANIAC IN THIS HOUSE!



YES, AND WE INSIST ON CALLING THE POLICE FOR PROTECTION!

JUST A MOMENT, GENTLEMEN!

MORE WHITE POWDER ON THIS LAMP! THAT JUST ABOUT PROVES.....



BENTLEY SELECTS A PRIMITIVE GOURD FROM A CASE!



UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN, THIS CONTAINS.....

THE WHITE POWDER I FOUND ON THE LAMPS! THAT MEANS I WAS RIGHT AFTER ALL!



BUT MARTIN WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO KNEW IT WAS IN HERE!

YES / NONE OF US HAS EVER BEEN IN HERE BEFORE!



THAT'S RIGHT, INSPECTOR!



THIS WHITE POWDER, GENTLEMEN, IS KNOWN AS THE CONGO CURSE! IT'S A RARE AFRICAN DRUG!

THAT'S WHAT MARTIN WAS RAVING ABOUT!



MARTIN WAS STILL IN LOVE WITH ANNE! WHEN HE REALIZED HE COULDN'T HAVE HER, HE KILLED HER AND THEN HIMSELF!

I'M AFRAID YOU'RE WRONG THERE, DAN / IT WAS ONE OF YOU THREE MEN WHO COMMITTED THE CRIME! AND I'LL PROVE WHO IT WAS!

WHEN HEATED THE DRUG GIVES OFF A VAPOR THAT CAUSES ITS VICTIM TO GO VIOLENTLY INSANE AND TO DIE..... ALL WITHIN A FEW MINUTES!



GOOD HEAVENS, BENTLEY.

SOMEBODY PUT THAT POWDER ON THE OIL LAMPS AND WHEN THEY WERE LIGHTED, INSTANTANEOUS INSANITY AND DEATH RESULTED!

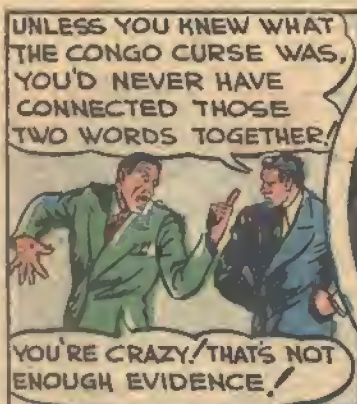


BENTLEY HAS SOLVED THE MYSTERY! HAVE YOU?

MARK YOUR CHOICE FOR THE MURDERER AMONG THESE THREE...

TOM DOUGLAS? _____
HARRY HARPER? _____
DAN DOUGLAS? _____

THEN TURN TO THE NEXT PAGE FOR THE SOLUTION OF INSPECTOR BENTLEY.



Fifty Famous Fingers

NOW WRITE WITH
REMINGTON
NOISELESS
TYPEWRITERS



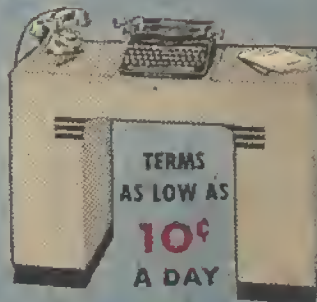
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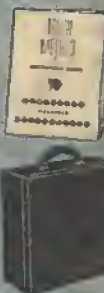
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